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THE LAND OF THE BEAUTEOUS BLACK





[Frontispiece



1. "Travelling in the younger sort  
is a part of Education,  
and in the older  
a part of Experience".

**FRANCIS BACON**

2. "The Mind is enlarged, the Character  
grows wider and nobler by travel".

**DR. ANNIE BESANT**

# THE LAND OF THE BEAUTEOUS BLACK A TALE OF TRAVEL

(Being a narrative of Impressions and Observations of an Indian Visitor to  
East and South Africa)

BY

**Manohar Dass K. Khilnany, B.A., M.R. Ag. S.,**

**Author of "A Trip to Happy Valley of Kashmir",**

**"Merits of Manuring in Agriculture",**

**"Pickings from Flowery fields of Literature", and several other books and  
brochures in Vernacular, on diverse topics**

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TO  
MY COUNTRYMEN  
DOMICILED IN EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA  
WHO ARE STRUGGLING TO LIVE A LIFE  
OF NATIONAL SELF-RESPECT AND TOILING  
UNDER A HOST OF DISABILITIES SOCIAL  
AND POLITICAL.

## ARE INDIANS RACIALLY INFERIOR?

“There are persons who conceive that to the white, belongs, in virtue of inherent superiority, the inalienable right to rule over races of darker color than themselves. But facts are against them.

Indians have achieved the highest distinction in the varied Spheres of human activity, and by their success, have refuted the charge of racial inferiority. Certain of those qualities which we (British) are apt to think, rank highly, may be less in evidence among them, than among ourselves; but that is merely to say that they are different from ourselves; but difference may exist along side of perfect equality”.

*Bishop of Calcutta.*

THE METROPOLITAN (Church of England).

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**Note—**The author is indebted to Messrs. C. D. Patel & Sons, the well-known Indian Photographers' firm of Mombasa, for a free supply of most of the photographs for the illustrations of this book.

---



## INTRODUCTION

As I was never tired of emphasising the fact in my press interviews to prominent organs of public opinion both in East and South Africa, such as 'Kenya Daily Mail', 'Colonial Times', 'East African Standard', 'Zanzibar Voice', 'Tanganyika Opinion', 'Bulawayo Chronicle' (Rhodesia) and 'Indian Views of Durban', that the generality of people in India, deplorably lacked the information about real all-round conditions obtaining in different African territories, I cannot help reiterating here, that barring a microscopic minority which remained in touch with and took particular interest in African trade affairs as also with an exception of a few tourists whose number was negligible, the general public in India considered East and South Africa as parts of the Dark Continent.

The people of India have as a rule entertained a set of awfully erroneous notions about life in African territories in general and very vague, imperfect and inadequate ideas and views about the conditions social and political obtaining there, particularly as affecting Indians settled in different Colonies.

Frequent travel to and flow of authentic and systematic news from Africa are the only effective means of disseminating in India what is what, in regard to the so-called "Dark Continent". Among Indians, there has been, for sometime past a growing craze for and rush on European Countries and the Far East in particular. Every other country may be visited but not East or South Africa. Even those who plan world tours for pleasure, mostly for lack of knowledge, omit to include East or South African ports in their itinerary, thinking there is nothing attractive or noteworthy about those places. Thus the beaten track is followed and oft-frequented is frequented. Egypt being situate *en route* to Europe, is ofcourse visited. Rarely it is, that some one among the rich, may visit other habitable territories of



Africa. A few persons charged with definite political missions, do go there, now and again besides business Canvassers and those interested in trade and commerce, running their firms, but it is not given to the latter class of people either to feel interested in Cultural side of things or to study social and political conditions under which their nationals domiciled there, live and labour, much less, have they requisite ability or enthusiasm to share all they have known and seen, with general public, on return to India both through Press and on the platform.

Some of the well-known Indian Newspapers are subscribed to, by Indians in Africa, but African papers with perhaps a few exceptions, are not received in India to acquaint common people as to what transpires there.

Foreign news-agencies working there, do flash off and on, broad happenings or occurrences of Empire or World importance, but very seldom or perhaps never is the intelligence concerning welfare of Indians living in Africa, transmitted to India, from an Indian-National viewpoint. So often do we get here, coloured or garbled accounts of social and political disabilities under which our Nationals in Africa are labouring.

Considering all that, our knowledge of that continent, and peoples inhabiting it, is admittedly very poor.

No wonder then, that in most people's mind the land of Africa, has been associated with everything dark and wild. Many have asked me if Africa is all wild and very hot and my answer in the form of a counter question to them has been: "Do you mean to say that White people have settled in wilds of Africa, with no natural facilities?"

My four months' sojourn in the most habitable parts of Africa, viz. East and South made it abundantly clear to me that the geographical knowledge of most of us about that continent is imperfect and that in spite of long distances, difficulties of immigration, galling detention, irksome slowness of Railway travel in some places, the country is beautiful, fertile and rich in vegetation, wherein a Visitor finds to his or her delight shallow winding valleys with perennial play of sun and shade all around.

There are practically no plains in East and South Africa and the whole country on an average, is 2 to 3 thousand feet above sea level, a huge tableland. The tale of Africa as a dark continent is thus not entirely true. During the later days of its history, Africa offers itself to the modern traveller as the land where primitive and most barbaric and ultra-modern men and things go hand in hand. It is here, that we witness the spectacle of a progressive civilisation as exemplified in town areas, complacently rubbing shoulders with the Culture of primitive people who live their lives as it were, in a world apart.

There is a strange fascination about Africa which is verily a land of amazing contrasts. Being a continent of varied and diverse scenery and sport, one finds almost a conflicting variety of all descriptions in point of climate, soil, vegetation, scenes, surroundings, tribes and races.

Beyond Equator on the southern half of the globe, things being amazingly different, we come across conditions (natural, geographical and climatic) almost undreamt of. Except when a cold wave is experienced people there have both summer and winter alternating, each day of their lives. Thus there are no extremes of seasons, as we have in upper India. Time is reckoned  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours behind our Indian Standard Time in East and South Africa respectively. Throughout the colonies, Natives, Asiatics and Whites, live together in townships and yet keep to themselves. The layout of townships is planned and designed on European lines, wherein Asiatics and Europeans are partitioned out; native residential areas are invariably located outside these townships. The Country all over is well-policed and could boast of a well-maintained service of fine, metalled, asphalted roads throughout and above all, dust-free. The longest road runs from Capetown in the extreme South to Cairo in the extreme North, covering the entire length of the continent, for about 10,500 miles interrupted here and there by a few big sea-like lakes. The Railway is not quite well-developed as yet and in Eastern

Countries, it is jointly managed, in one single department, along with harbours.

It is in short a land that attracts the attention of travel-minded people, a veritable Tourist's paradise. Its native life, its flora and fauna and above all its bush-clad mountain ranges and boundless veld canopied with skies of azure blue, make a direct appeal to that indefinable something in the make-up of Modern Man which has been aptly attributed to wanderlust. The most characteristic thing about this vast country that needs mention, is, that in no part of the world, could we come across, easily and without the least endeavour, tourists, travellers, learned visitors of every conceivable nationality, as we could see and meet with in African territories and on African waters. For, Africa being partitioned out by different ruling nations, it is a veritable oriental mendicant's patched garment belonging in bits to principal nationalities of the world which are one and all interested in that Continent,—the Belgians, the Dutch, the Dutch Afrikans or Boers, the English, the French, the Italians, the Portuguese, the Greeks, the Germans, the Japanese, the Chinese, the Swedes, the Norweigns, the Poles, the Abyssinians and last but not the least, the Natives of various tribes, all these one can see and converse with and who will gainsay the fact that wide exchange of ideas, is invariably educative and enlightening? Of all the continents on the face of the globe, therefore, Africa is the most interesting trysting place.

In the light of what I saw and learnt there, I felt, I had a definite message for my countrymen. Prompted by that feeling as also, following the time-honored precedent of educated travellers, of publishing their impressions of a country or countries visited by them, I offer this book to the Indian public and others both in India and in African Colonies, giving them a comprehensive reading, compressing in it something of everything and all that one need know about men and things in the countries I visited. Apart from enlightening my countrymen about the conditions under which our nationals live,

I have endeavoured to give various facts about all sorts of things in the book, so as to render it useful to all those who contemplate or hereafter feel induced to take a trip to that interesting country.

At the end of the volume. I have added an appendix stating the territories, the towns in it (with their heights above sea level) I visited, and the total mileage I covered, by land, by air, and by sea. There are a few extra photo-illustrations given, to afford the reader an idea of the mission which made my visit to Africa possible. Towards the end of the said appendix, I have also given a few impressions, about things in general as also a number of helpful tips to India.

In conclusion, I cannot but help expressing my sincere appreciation of the encouragement, in the shape of profuse publicity I received in Africa both from the European and Indian Press. I also offer my heart-felt thanks to various Indian Associations and other Institutions I visited, which arranged my meetings as also numerous Indian brethren (both Moslems and Hindus) who accorded to me warm welcome, entertained me, framed my itinerary arranging free rides to visit farms and factories and did very much more for me beyond the extent of conventional hospitality, thus making my stay throughout easy and my mission successful.

M. K. K.

## 2. SEYCHELLES ISLANDS.

Traversing a distance of 1752 miles from Bombay, the Gateway of India, after about a week's voyage, we reach this Archipelago, a group of Islands knit together, situate at 4 degrees south of Equator and about 969 miles from Mombasa, the Gateway of East Africa.

These islands are now a Colony within British Empire. Discovered by a Portuguese, Pedro de Mascareguas in 1505, the Islands have altered but little, with the passage of time. For many a year, we are told, they were the haunts of pirates who came from Indian (Malabar) Coast. Later, the Islands were colonised by the French, but as they were coveted by the English, the latter after many a grim fight, succeeded in dispossessing the French of these under the treaty of Paris in 1814.

There is a theory about these Islands, woven by some one of the learned travellers. I have laboured this interesting theory, a bit further.

Before Mooan-jo-daro, in Sind, with astonishing archaeological finds, was discovered, which dates as far back to nearly 5000 years before Christ, the age of Mahabharata, was regarded by Western historians, as a pure myth, at best a Religious Scriptural Creation, but by no means a stern historical fact. But now after the Mooan-jo-daro excavations, History is compelled to recognise the existence of that remote period of Mahabharata in Indian History. Likewise Hindus believe that Vedic age or the earlier golden age of Ramayana did also have historical existence.

Thus what is believed by Westerners to be Mythology mentions full 9 continents composing the globe, as against 5 or 6 taught by modern Geography. Even the Hindu and Sikh Scriptures speak of this number nine.

It is highly probable that by about the Epic age of Ramayana, one of these nine continents was located here. May be, it was an Island-Continent now lost to us. The

mountains on the Seychelles Islands are believed to be the Summits of the mountains of the Sunken Continent which now lies hidden beneath the waves of the Indian-Ocean and which, according to Hindu scriptural testimony, joining Laccdev Islands on the way, reached very much nearer the Western Coast of India and it is quite thinkable, that the smaller Islets in the vicinity of Seychelles, may be the connecting links.

In Tanganyika territory of East Africa, one can see a very high mountain called Meru Mount by the Natives. We are inclined to believe this "Meru" and "Sumeru" Mount as mentioned in "Ramayana" to be identical. Possibly "Hanuman" one of the Heroes of "Ramayana" and a follower of God Rama, had flown across this Sumeru Mount (India and Africa being linked together then) and carried back to Ceylon, those healing herbs which he procured on the said Mount, as the story goes.

At the present moment, I was told, Radium had been found on Meru Mount which is all verdant and it is expected gold to be found before long. Then again, the word "Posho" meaning "Food" current in Swahili the native African language spoken in Eastern territories, is derived from "Posh" meaning "Nourish" in Sanskrit. A learned Pandit from India on his recent visit to East Africa, tracing the relations of Sanskrit, with this native tongue of East Africa, has pointed out several Swahili words of Sanskrit origin. This is another consideration lending strength to the theory in question. Presence of verdant hills rising abruptly on the coast of Mahi Island (which is the biggest of the Seychelles group), as also the existence of a number of islets in close proximity, together with the consideration of nearness of Seychelles Islands to Laccdev and African Coast on either side, supported ofcourse by Hindu scriptural authority confirm me into the belief that India and Africa may have been linked together and that there certainly was a sunken continent so close both to India and Africa, in remotest antiquity.

With these Islands, is also associated a Biblical belief.

The Island of Praslin the second largest of the group, so close to the main island of Mahi, is believed to be the original site of that "Garden of Eden" mentioned in the old Testament. It is here, that the curious fruit Cocodermer (botanically known as "*Lodoicea Seychellarum*") can be cultivated successfully.

This huge nut is double, treble and sometimes quadruple the usual size of cocoanut which it resembles closely, weighing upto 50 pounds. Growing beneath a canopy of leaves 120 ft. or more from the ground, it is unique in shape, containing a gelatinous substance exported largely to Far East, for medicinal purposes. It is this Forbidden fruit of Eden, which Adam and Eve ate and thereafter procreated the world.

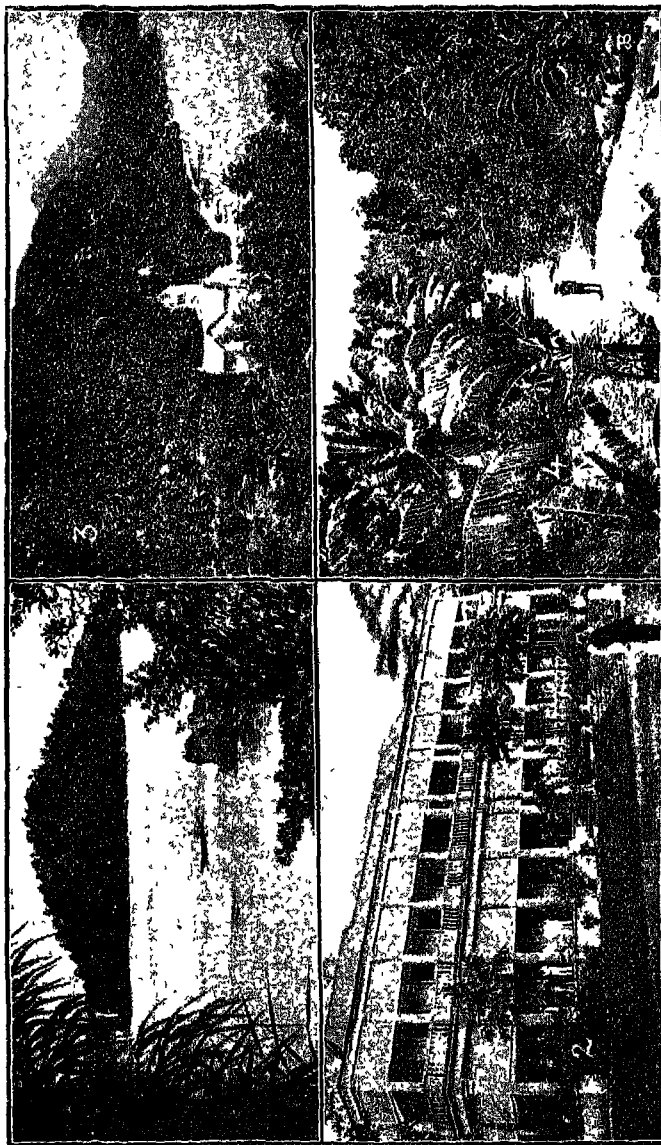
Mahi, 17 miles long and 5 miles broad, is the largest Island and beneath its towering hills, nestles the only tiny town of Civilisation "Port Victoria", where we landed.

As the steamer drops anchor in the harbour, a scene of great beauty is unfolded to a visitor's eyes. The mount of Morn Seychellois which gives the name to the Islands, rises abruptly from the sea to a height of 2995 feet. The hills are covered with huge granite boulders amid which tumble and cascade innumerable streams. In monsoon, the scenery is simply superb. The lower slopes are a sea of high-waving palms which stretch as far as the eye can reach and from out of which peep the European Planters' bungalows. Amid these heavenly surroundings reside the foreigners who are "Whites", while the Natives, the original inhabitants, the offspring of Early French settlers and the aborigines, called "Creoles", Christian by religion and extremely poor, take life as it is, in sweet contentment.

The main street of "Victoria" the tiny town, is flanked on one side by shops and stores owned by Seychellois, Chinese and Indians where practically everything necessary could be bought and on the opposite side, by trees, spreading branches whereof, are reflected in the sea waters.







1. Green Islet.

2. Government House, Port Victoria.

3. Cascade Church.

4. Scenery on Mahi Island.

The town is beautifully planned, the lay-out being lovely and I have not come across the like of it anywhere, throughout my extensive travels in India. Sea on one side, green parks finely laid out on narrow strips of land, gradually being reclaimed from sea, with palm groves on the opposite side under which, may be seen nestling wooden cottages erected in exotic architectural style, and immediately at the back of these garden habitations, rise abruptly, high verdant hills, lending the entire place a unique picturesqueness which would give an observant visitor impressions ineffaceable. The country is all undulated, roads winding up and down while the soil is red-brick coloured.

Some Britishers, apart from a few Government officials and operators of Eastern Telegraph Company, consisting of a few families of retired officers, have settled down, on these islands on account of its marvellous climate and extremely low cost of living. On entering the town market which is a neat and open one, one finds large quantities of tropical fruits and vegetables spread out on the stalls in Indian fashion. Here one dozen of bananas could be bought for 6 cents (or for less than one anna) while a creamy cocoanut could be easily had for one pice each. Rents and servants are extremely cheap. There are no banks on the island, but any draft could be easily cashed by local merchants and bankers. The local money is all in paper currency although Indian Silver money too, is in free circulation. There are in the town, along with a club for the Whites, a library and a small interesting museum. It is the Roman Catholic Church that serves the laity on the island. A fine church near a cascade 3 miles away, and the Government Botanical Gardens with a good collection of trees and shrubs from other tropical countries as also from the Far East, are worth while a visit. Scenery in and around Port Victoria is gorgeous indeed.

On the Islands, both Saturday and Sunday are observed as holidays when both dark and fair colored Creoles dressed in X'tian style, attend churches and

afterwards promenade the streets in gaiety. Creoles are indeed children of Nature, passing their time with no thought of the morrow. It is a veritable sight to see "blacks" clad in European style, barefooted, but with locally-made straw hats on, doing washing and other labour jobs. Their *language* is called "Creole" which is original native and broken French mixed. English is also understood here and there. *Public health and hygiene* are here well-attended to.

*Climate* is very bracing and healthy. Malaria is an unheard of thing. There is absolutely no fear there either of wild animals or poisonous snakes.

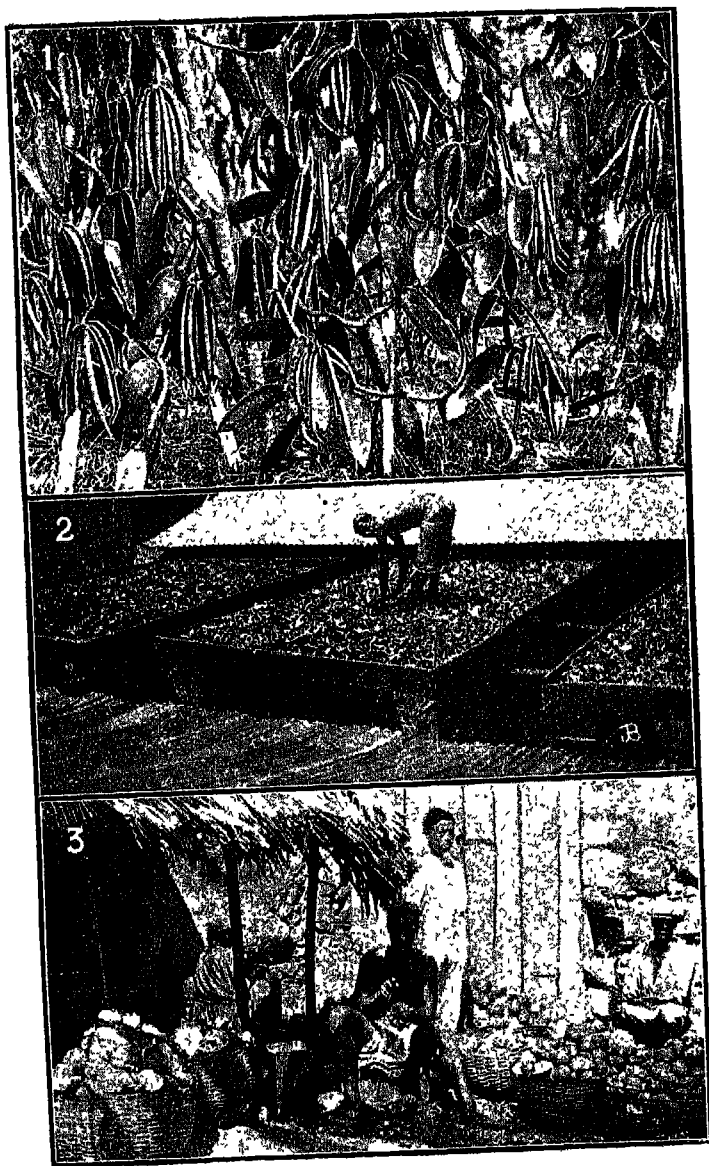
*Diet*—Along with bread, fruit, mostly banana, is the staple diet of Natives. Rice and cocoanut are extensively grown on the Islands.

There is among mixed whites, a certain amount of *beauty and charm*. In this "Little Paris of the East" as the town "Victoria" is sometimes called, people are given to gaiety.

*Morals* — Despite the fact that sexual laxity prevails all over the Island, people are fairly good artesans and very intelligent. Would it surprise the readers, there is not much of thieving or pick-pocketing there.

*Trade* — It is chiefly carried on with Malabar coast (India) and East Africa, in cocoanut and its products. Copra and vineylla are the two principal industries pursued on the Islands. Watermills may be seen all over, near about Cascades, producing power employed in cocoanut cutting. The Sun-drying process of Copra, on a large scale and vineylla cultivation are the two noteworthy things of interest for a visitor to study. Vineylla pods yield an essence known to trade as bottled vineylla used in Parsi and European households, for flavouring cakes, puddings and the like preparations. The pods are exported to Europe, in large quantities for extraction of essence and making of toilet soap.

*Indigenous Crafts*—Creoles the natives, are known for their handicrafts. Out of sea shells found there in large abundance, quite a variety of lovely articles



1. Vineyalla Crop.
2. Sun drying process of Copra.
3. Coconut cutting by hand.



of every day use are made mostly by manual labour. The shell is converted into combs, brushes, cigarette cases, mirror cases, buttons, sleeve links, photo frames etc, exactly on the same lines, as artesans in Agra (India) chisel out and shape things, out of Indian Makrana marble.

The cocoanut shell which is thrown away as waste in South-West India is with a modern touch of cut and finish, converted here into nice round toilet boxes which become *articles of art and utility*. Palm leaves are woven into baskets and straw hats, used both by natives and whites locally.

### 3. CLIMATE, SOIL & GENERAL FEATURES OF EASTERN TERRITORIES

Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar are the four territories that go to constitute what is known as British East Africa.

Of these four, Kenya (named after Mount Kenya) is the most important and far-famed colony.

The Eastern countries are endowed with such a diversity of climatic conditions that one feels there, variations in temperature half a dozen times a day. There is no winter there as we have in Northern India. The hot and dry months of the year there, are from December to March, February being the hottest month. The rain-fall is well-distributed; deluges caused by continuous downpour are practically unknown and in monsoon, one can go about freely, unhampered by strictures of weather. The average fall there is from 30 to 70 inches. There are two distinct periods of rain-fall in East Africa. "Long" rains begin at the end of March usually lasting upto middle of June. "Short" rains commence in October and are over by end of November. Soils, in these parts of the continent, are mostly of volcanic origin and vary in colour and texture. Wilds, are rendered habitable exactly in the same way as town areas. Roads, houses, hotels and even solitary homesteads on agricultural estates, particularly in Kenya, are constructed much in the same way as in townships. In Kenya, one may be very high, in a township like that of Limuru (7345 feet above sea level) and yet vast stretches of semi-flat land and shallow valleys running in miles, do not for a moment make us feel that we are on high heights. The rise is never abrupt nor are hanging towns there as we find in India. The country being all undulated, the ups and downs in the roadways and field plantations are so very exquisite and charming. Even the wild trees in jungles are so very ornamental and what is remarkable, that the travel

throughout is dust-free. In Kenya alone there are 5000 miles of roads. Transport roads are well kept and well attended to. Public Works Department in African territories, has only roads and buildings to mind, there being no irrigation, as cultivation is all-round solely dependent on rainfall.

The country in general and the Island of Mombasa in particular are very picturesque. On waking up in the country in and around townships, one often enjoys a variety of birds singing sweetly.



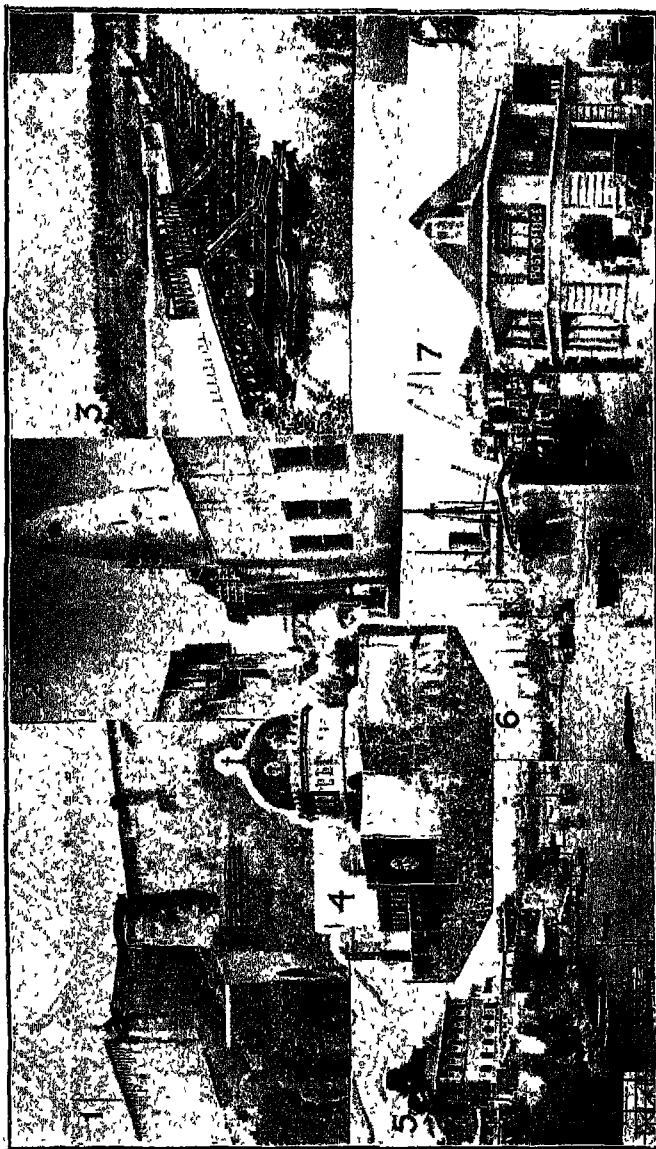
#### 4. LIFE IN KENYA

Since 1895 Kenya had been administered as a protectorate, but in 1920, it was proclaimed as a Crown Colony, the name Kenya having been taken from Mount Kenya, the highest in the Colony. The strip of coast-land extending 10 miles inland including the Islands of Mombasa and Lamu archipelago are leased from the Sultan of Zanzibar who receives £10,000 per annum from Kenya Government in respect of these territories now called Kenya protectorate, the area whereof along with the Colony of Kenya, is 2,08,320 square miles. The total population of Kenya in 1934 was 30 lacs or 3 millions of which about 18,000 were Europeans.

**MOMBASA**— The Island of Mombasa reveals glories of tropical vegetation abounding in towering palms and mangoes growing in luxuriant profusion. Mombasa the former capital of British East Africa and the gateway to the interior is a town of fascinating interest. Modern commercial buildings and attractive bungalows mingle with relics of the past such as the old Portuguese Fort of Jesus now converted into a prison, the picturesque Arab town and the Indian bazaar.

According to last Census in 1933, the population of the town is 42,907 of which Arabs and Indians are 20,443, Natives 21,345 and White people 1,119 only. The deep water wharves at Killindini make the new port, one of the finest on the east coast of Africa. Mombasa has two cathedrals, the English and the Roman Catholic. There are three banks in the town like everywhere else in East Africa, the Barclays' Dominion and Overseas Bank, Standard Bank of South Africa and the National Bank of India as also a modern European Hospital.

Both the towns of Mombasa and Nairobi owe their early growth and development to Indian Community. One of the well-known Indians of Mombasa, Honourable



# MOMBASA.

1. Old Portuguese Fort (now Prison).
2. Portuguese Minaret, an old relic in the heart of the town.
3. The Creek.
4. English Cathedral.
5. Old Harbour.
6. Killindini New Harbour.
7. Post Office.



Mombasa Industrial Exhibition  
Publicity Stamp.

J. B. Pandya of Gujrat, is the member of legislative Council of Kenya; the other is Nanji Kalidas, a great Capitalist owning a big Sugar factory and some other concerns.

Among Khojas, Jivanji Karimji and Walji Hirji as bankers, traders and landlords are two richest firms of repute in East Africa. There are a few Khojas who are island owners, others trade in elephant tusks among other things. There are two leading Sind Work Merchant firms with about 25 Sindhies in Mombasa.

Among Indians in Mombasa, the largest number is that of Khojas and Gujraties put together, with a smattering of Punjab Hindus and Sikhs.

While I was there, Indians had united to organise a big Exhibition of Trade, Industry and Agriculture lasting for 3 days; among other devices of giving publicity to the said exhibition, the organisers had issued postage stamps as per picture illustration overleaf and the Government Post Office heartily co-operated with the organisers to distribute these stamps.

*NAIROBI (Metropolis of Kenya)* — It is the Capital of Kenya 330 miles by rail from Mombasa, 5500 feet above sea level situate on a plateau somewhat like old Quetta in India, with shallow winding valleys. The landscape scenery in and around the town is superb. Though a hill station, climatically very cool and pleasant, we do not feel we are on a hill.

Built on Athi tableland, the town is made and modelled by the British, exactly on British and American style. The layout in general, the roads, avenues numbered from one to six along with delightful residential suburbs like parklands, in particular, are some of the attractive features of town planning of Nairobi.

All over African colonies, towns and Institutions have been built, unhampered by old usages and traditions unlike in India where modernization has taken its own time. That is so because there is no civilisation of Natives in Africa to count upon.

The population of Nairobi in 1933, was 7090 Europeans, 46,660 Natives and 17,270 Asiatics; of the

latter about 17000 were Indians of whom Gujratics and Cutchies alone, engaged in trade and state services, numbered about 10,000 while Khojas and Punjabis, 7,000. There are Punjabis working there as carpenters, shopkeepers, fruit sellers and clerks. Sindhis also number about 30 representing their firms.

Government House situate on the hill is a magnificent building. Nairobi is the Head Quarters of Kenya Uganda Railway. The City Park is a fine Municipal Park, a little far away from the centre of the town and is designed on American lines. One can enjoy vast stretches of splendid up and down lawns. The park abounds in floral beds and rich creepers. I found here geranium with bright colors and fleshy foliage growing almost wild. A fine entertaining "Maze" hedged with *Duranta* is one of the delights of the park. One may wander about inside the Maze for half an hour or more, and yet fail to find a way out. On Sundays as usual the Park is teeming with life.

There are two large Government schools besides a few private ones. The town has the principal European Hospital in the country. It is the head quarters of 5th Battalion King's African Rifles. There are several good hotels exclusively for Europeans besides three very fine ones replete with every modern convenience recently built. Nairobi can boast of the largest aerodrome in the country.

Thus, only a generation old, Nairobi is really wonderful. Sir Robert Coryndon Museum situate on Ainsworth hill there, is interesting and instructive in certain respects quite unlike Indian Museums. At the entrance is kept a visitor's book wherein a visitor has to put down his or her name and put one shilling per head by way of admission fee in the box on the table. This tests the honesty of entrants to the museum. Those who have given exhibits for display, are put down on labels as donors.

In Nairobi, as everywhere else in African Museums I found only local, territorial or provincial products

displayed. National historical collections were the chief feature everywhere. Thus the Museums, the way they were modelled, became living national and educative forces and quite in line with the latest occidental National Museums of the day.

In the animal section of the Nairobi Museum, birds animals and fishes of various colors, all of East Africa while in the Entomological section, natural history of Locusts and other insect pests together with Coffee diseases, were well displayed. *BONGO* resembling wild ox though, is a shy animal and the same displayed amidst natural surroundings, glass in front, electric light inside as also water looking like a mirage, flowers and leaves of trees all made from Japanese Silk, deceiving eyes.....was a chief attraction.

Antiquated drums and boats without nails, primitive type of ornaments like ear-stretchers of polished stone worn by watende tribe and basket and bead works of Natives of today were all separately exhibited. The entire history of customs and usages of old barbarians as they underwent changes, was beautifully displayed. Likewise, I wish, our provincial museums in India be re-modelled as to be living national and educative forces.

Those interested in botany, may find a wonderful collection of trees and shrubs in Nairobi Arboratum. The best varieties of Eucalyptus, Arocaria Cookii, Cotoneaster Pamosa of China, for hedging, Acacia Armata of West Australia, Grevillea Robusta of New South Wales, thornless, silver leaved golden wattle of South-Australia (an Acacia type) and Cypressus Majestic, the best variety of oriental cypress could be seen and studied here besides numerous other tropical shrubs.

The market of Nairobi is worthy of special mention. Its architectural stand and the management of the interior are unique. Even the biggest and the richest market of Calcutta in India commanding every conceivable saleable article, would not come up to the thoroughly European standard of the Nairobi Market, particularly from the hygienic point of view.

The central cemented floor of the market, is marked for Badminton played by Europeans and others after 6 P. M. when stalls are closed. Flowers and fruits are neatly arranged in stall fashion and well-displayed.

In the fish and meat section, separate sign boards showing different kinds of fish would be seen hung up, while meat in the meat stalls paved with white sanitary tiles, is displayed in glass cases.

This market commanded fruits from every part of Africa. On Tuesdays and Fridays a very good assortment of flowers and fruits is available in the market.

The European market master holding his office on the top looked after sanitation and letting out of stalls. Big boards could be seen all over walls and arches inside the market prohibiting people from spitting or throwing refuse about. Sweepers with long brooms were present on the premises, sweeping clean the floors now and again. Up-to-date urinaries and toilet and dressing rooms for Europeans and Asiatic men and women separate, were a special feature of this market place.

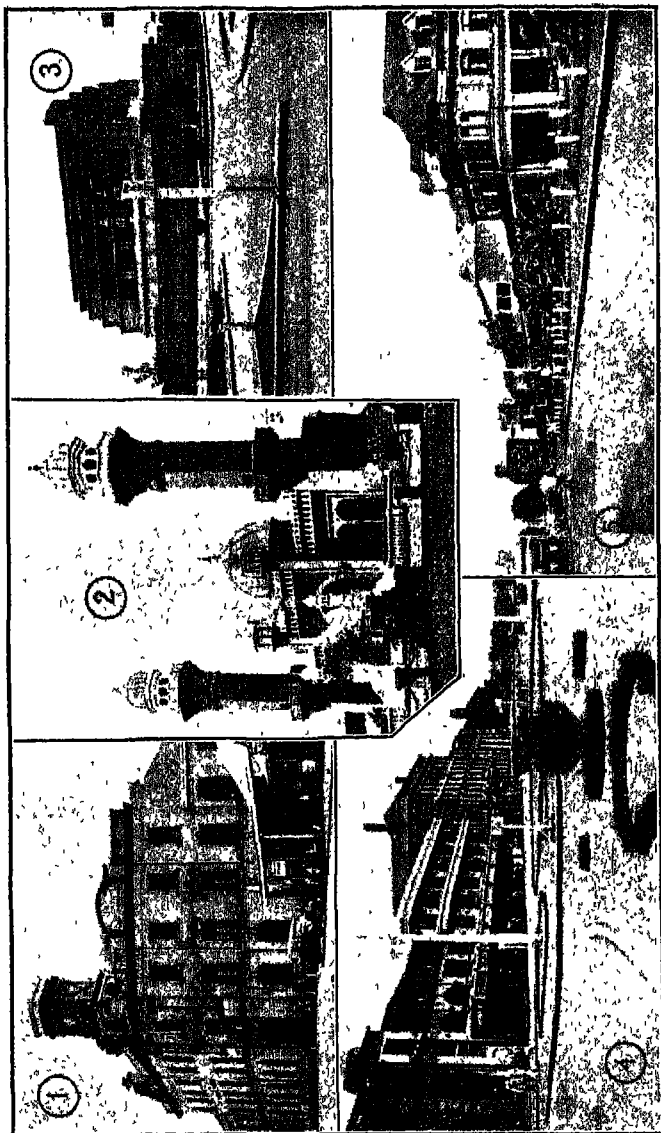
#### *INDIAN COMMUNITY IN NAIROBI.*

A substantial portion of trade in Nairobi is controlled by Indians to whom very largely the development of the metropolitan town is due. Khojas are, as everywhere else in East Africa, going strong here too. Next to them Cutchi and Gujraties, particularly the Patel community among the latter, have done excellent social uplift work, in the land of their adoption.

The life of social institutions as indeed of communities and races depends mainly on ideals which inspire their members among whom, the younger generation always constitutes the most dynamic factor. "Patel Brotherhood" which was ushered into existence in 1917 was the outcome of indefatigable energies of young Patels.

It is the standing monument of sincerest endeavours of Patel community of Gujrat, in the direction of social and national uplift.

Social service of all kinds, in the shape of ministering to the needs of sufferers by unforeseen calamities and help-



# NAIROBI

1. Khoja Jamaat Khana. 2. Moslem Mosque. 3. Market Place. 4. Sixth Avenue
5. Government Road the main artery of Nairobi.





**"PATEL BROTHERHOOD"**

The well-known Social Uplift Institution of Nairobi Indians.

ing in everyway the members of the Patel community domiciled in East Africa is being done, under the direction and guidance of a simple and sympathetic President Mr. C. K. Patel. The total membership being 150, consists of 41 yearly and 70 life members besides 21 patrons. Excellent library and reading room are provided where 54 different weeklies, dailies and other periodicals in different languages, from India and elsewhere are subscribed to. Once a week on every Wednesday, Reading Room Hall is reserved for ladies. Games, Sports, raising of funds and lectures by distinguished visitors are some of the other activities. The building of "Patel-Brotherhood" has cost the management as much as 70,000 Shillings or 47,000 rupees in all.

The Sikh Union and the Indian Christian Union are the other two popular institutions of Nairobi which are ever pulsating with life.

#### **SUBURBS OF NAIROBI.**

(a) LAKE MAGADI, one of the wonders of the world, the visitor, must on no account miss. By car, it is 75 miles from Nairobi. There is an area of about 40 square miles which looks usually dry. During rains it turns into a vast sheet of water appearing like a vast lake. When it is dry, big blocks of salt are exposed to view. Boil that salt, sand is separated and the resultant is that commercial commodity known as "Soda Ash" which is largely exported thence to Japan. Places whence the salt is dug out, form depressions which automatically get filled up in a couple of years' time by underground salts forcing their way up on the surface.

(b) KIAMBU is a fertile tract commanding a lovely sight of hanging Coffee plantations. The landscape scenery round about is exquisite.

(c) KIKOYU LAKE situate near about the village of the same name, 13 miles away from Nairobi is yet another suburb worth visiting. It is a typical swamp though wonderfully covered. A lake 20 to 25 feet deep with a thick layer of grass and earth sealing up the surface, is a strange phenomenon. When we walked along the

surface it was shaking like a hanging bridge. Nairobi derives its water supply from this lake.

(d) Nyeri is another attraction. It is the starting place for tours around Mount Kenya. The town of Nyeri is attractively situated amidst streams and beautiful scenery.

(e) The Chania and Thika rivers supply electric power for Nairobi; Chania river commands a fall of 100 feet which is an enjoyable sight.

(f) Fourteen Falls on Athi River, 15 miles away from Thika village is yet another scenic attraction.

There is in East Africa, nothing of the ancient, no ruins or lost civilisations and that is the only thing lacking. The scenery includes great table lands, great lakes, great forests of cedar, bamboo, acacia and many mighty timbers. There are extinct volcanoes like "Kenya". "Killimanjaro" Africa's highest mountain (19,720 feet high) which dominates the sky, has to be seen in order to be believed. "Tropical sunshine bathes the green below. Up the slopes of a hill side, lies a blanket of clouds and above is a smooth dome of snow glistening under the same sun that wreathes the luxuriant vegetation at its base, seeming more like some strange mirage than a reality". Learned travellers from Europe come to have a look at the celebrated mount with a top of a Crater. To go to East Africa without seeing it, is like going to Rhodesia without seeing the world-famed Victoria Falls.

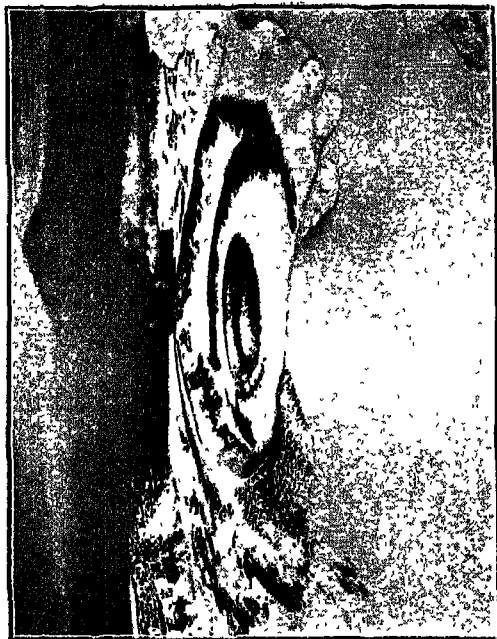
**NAKURU**—Leaving Nairobi for Nakuru, the visitor has to pass by Limuru (7,345 feet above sea level) a health resort, where many a retired European have settled down.

Lake Naivasha after which is named the township of the same name is 62 miles away from Nairobi. There are two good hotels for Europeans in the township which is small and scattered. It is a centre of a large dairy industry.

18 miles away is another township by name Gilgil, The East African and Land Development company Ltd., have large farming interests in the neighbourhood.



"FOURTEEN FALLS" - Athi River - (Kenya).



Top of Africa's highest mountain  
"KILLIMANJARO"

Nakuru situate on and named after lake Nakuru with hills in the background, is the third largest town in Kenya colony.

As "Nairobi" means good water, Nakuru, originally pronounced as Naikuru, means bad water in Masai language. The town which is 6,100 feet above sea level, is the stronghold of white settlers. Its population is little over 4,500 souls; the district figures are 8,000 of which, Natives, Indians and Europeans number 5,000, 2,000 and 1,000 respectively. Most of the large Kenya business firms have branches at Nakuru and it is a great agricultural centre being right in the midst of maize producing tract. An English firm buys maize and exports it to England. A big flour mill owned by an Indian also works there. It is also an important Railway junction, the railway line here branching off to Uganda. The water supply of the town sold by measure is derived from a neighbouring river emanating from hills whence water flows naturally. Both European and Indian Bazaars and residential quarters are separate.

Lake Nakuru situate a little higher up, seems very close to the town, but in actuality it is about 3 miles away. Its depth does not exceed 5 to 10 feet. No shooting of birds on the lake is permitted by law. For Europeans there is a fine mixed Government school for boys and girls while for Indians, there is one small middle school recently started. A very small Trading Indian Community in Nakuru consisting of Sikhs, Moslems and Hindus, have a fine Sikh domed Gurdwara with residential quarters on the premises, a Krishna Mandir, an Arya Samaj and a Punjabi Muslim mosque to their credit.

There are besides one English Church, one Dutch Church and two churches one for Indian Goans and the other for African native Christians.

At Nakuru, Mr. Amir Afzal, a subordinate postal official hailing from N. W. F. Province of India and Sardar Sat Bachansing local Police Official, a very well informed Indian and owning about 700 acres of land

in lowlands showed me factories and fields. I was told, the white settlers had made tons of money in the colony, before the Economic depression overtook the world in 1929.

Nakuru Indians are running an Indian Association of which Dr. N. M. Shah, M.B.B.S., a flourishing Gujrati medical practitioner, was the energetic honorary secretary. I interviewed Major Couldry the Kenyan Politician and Editor "Kenya Weekly News" who appeared very keenly interested both in present political and agricultural situation in India.

I had as well a long talk with Colonel Griffiths the Managing Director of White Settlers' Association, on agricultural crops and the latest uses maize was put to, discussing some very useful statistics. He loaded me with bottled specimens of Kenya yellow maize, cornflour and sisal twine. I was also shown round Pyrethrum flower extract factory.

**KISUMU**— It is principally an Indian settlement, situate on what are called by white people as lowlands; the height above sea level, of these lowlands is 3,726 feet.

Kisumu is a lake port from which lake steamers on Victoria Nyanza start. This lake Victoria with a circumference exceeding that of Ireland is the biggest and the deepest sweetwater lake in the world, area where of is 26,828 square miles and is 30, 40 and even 50 feet deep in places. On windy days it behaves exactly like sea. Steamers of 600 to 2,000 tonnage ply on this lake which itself is 3,700 feet above sea level. Crocodiles and hippos abound in the lake waters. The town of Kisumu, surrounded on three sides by the lake, is a neat one, beautifully laid out. It is a bit malarial, not all the year round though. European Bazaar on a little elevation, overlooking the lake with hills in the background, makes up a landscape which offers ample material to the artist for his canvas and brush. The population of the town is about 5000, of which only 200 or so, are Europeans. Khojas, Gujraties and Sikhs are numerous. A beautiful Sikh Gurdwara looking like a church, at a distance is a

sight lending charm to the town. It is a centre of Kavirando native tribesmen and a great labour recruiting station.

*KAKAMEGA* — Kisumu to Kakamega is 38 miles. Road is on the ascent and commands lovely landscape scenery. Eucalyptus forests are a grand sight on the way. Christian natives trained by missions are seen in this tract in large numbers.

Kakamega the district township owes its existence to gold mining area in its vicinity. Its population is in the neighbourhood of 2 to 3 thousand souls of whom about 250 or so only, are whites.

There are three gold mines there, viz. Kimigini Kavirando and Rosterman of which the last named, being the biggest in gold output, was visited by me. As compared to our Indian Kolar gold fields, those mines are very shallow, for the simple reason that gold can be found in abundance on the surface. This particular mine is only 2 years old and the shaft can go to a depth of 450 feet as yet.

*ELDORET* — Seventy miles away from Kakamega and situate on an elevation of 6,877 feet, on Uasin Gishu Plateau, one of the largest areas of white settlement in Kenya with a population of over 1,000 Europeans, we get to the last big town of Kenya, on the way to Uganda. Pondu tree forests on the way, were reported to be infested with leopards.

Near about Eldoret, an altitude of nearly 9,000 feet is reached. Timbora is the highest railway point in the British Empire. Equator is crossed here within a range of 2 or 3 miles, the railway train touching Equator line 2 or 3 times. Near Equator railway station, one comes across another station called "Maji Mazuri" which in Swahili (native) language means good water. A water-fall witnessed from a natural cavity, 10 miles away and Eldoret water works 16 miles away are both worth while a visit. Natural perpetual mountainous stream which is blockaded and made to fall, flows into a tank where, by automatic set of machinery water gets cleansed and filtered through



slaked lime mixed to a fixed quantity of 30 pounds each time and passes on, through mains, to the township where water is measured out to consumers. One can see many Danish and Dutch farmers and workmen at Eldoret which is a go-ahead town, boasting of two fine hotels, branches of three banks, up-to-date stores of all sorts, several churches, European and Native hospitals and a number of clubs. European education is well provided for, by the new Government school being built to accommodate 300 children. Eldoret has recently become the headquarters of several mining groups interested in Kenya Gold Fields.

## 5. \*(INDIAN FARMERS IN KENYA ..... THEIR LOWLAND SETTLEMENTS)

While in Kenya, studying agricultural and rural conditions in August 1936, I was invited to visit Kibos colony, 8 miles from Kisumu, in Nyanza province, the only tract where Indians are allowed to farm. Although that part of Kenya is called lowlands, it is situate at an altitude of 4000 feet above sea level, as against the "Highlands" reserved for white farmers, which are situated higher up at altitudes of six to nine thousand feet.

The secretary of the Association of Indian Farmers took me round to see individual holdings of several members. These farmers, between themselves, own 23,000 acres of land, in that tract. The land is all held on 999 years' lease, chiefly growing sugarcane which is all "Barani" (dependent on rainfall) and is done as a ratoon crop.

Land is very fertile, while, the cost of production, I could see, was very much lower than that in India. I was told, the sugarcane rate, there, previous to 1930, was very encouraging, but the present rate is lower than in India. These cane-growers were feeding the neighbouring European-owned sugar factory at Miwani. Some of these settlers possessed their own 3-roller cane-crushers, working by hydraulic power; they boiled the juice, by indigenous open pan-system whereby they secured one ton of sugar from every ten tons of cane crushed.

I visited the farm of Sardar Keharsing, one of the progressive land-owners, owning an area of 1000 acres. He had been experimenting with four different varieties of Eucalyptus viz. Robusta, Solingna, Rostratra and

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\*The subject of this Chapter appeared as an article in "Tribune" of Lahore dated 15th January 1937 and repeated in "Sind Observer" of 31st January 1937.

Maculata, in separate nurseries. The Indian farmers employed labor, at the rate of 8 shillings or rupees five per month and 1 seer of maize flour per day per head as ration.

Some had tried cotton cultivation here and there and gram the winter crop in India, which was grown there along with the main crop of cotton, was in flower in the month of August. I advised the Indian farmers to extend the cotton cultivation, as the future of sugarcane in Kenya would probably be uncertain.

In Kenya and Uganda, there are half a dozen sugar factories in all, of which 3 are owned by Indian capitalists, while, out of the remaining three, owned by Europeans, one has, in recent years, been bought out by Indians. Out of the two existing European concerns, one is already working at a loss and may close down before long, while another is also expected to slip out of their hands soon, partly owing to economic depression and partly due to their high cost of living. In view of the fact that, the European factory at Miwani dictated their own rates, to Indian cane-growers who were compelled to dispose of their produce at a loss, the outgoing governor of Kenya Sir Joseph Byrne gave requisite permission to Indian settlers, to put up a sugar factory of their own, which would at least require an outlay of one lac of shillings, in East African currency. This however they could not afford, by themselves.

These Indian settlers of Kibos, urged me, to make it known in India through Press, that conditions in lowlands of Kenya were favorable and that Indian capitalists would be well advised to start a sugar factory or two. They desired me to disseminate in India, true knowledge of Kenya conditions, that the country for instance, was beautiful, farming easy and profitable and soil very fertile and productive. If more Indians went to settle there, the present community of Indian settlers would naturally gather strength and be more vocal. The Sikh settlers who form the majority, have put up residential houses right on their farms, while their standard



INDIAN FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.

Standing L to R. No: 3. Mr. H. T. Patel.

Sitting L to R. No: 2. Sardar Wariamsing Giani. Hon. Secretary.  
No: 4. Sardar Jivansing. . . President.



of farming is very much superior to the average standard obtaining in Indian agricultural practice, most of them owning their own motor tractors.

## 6. AGRICULTURE IN KENYA.

In Kenya, we come across 3 types of soils, black, red and coral rag.

The soil round about Nakuru is somewhat blackish ..... very rich in silicates, particles whereof are noticed shining like glow-worms in sunshine.

Two systems of land tenure are in vogue in Kenya. (1) Free holds which can't be had now; (2) 999 years' lease, leased at 20 rupees per acre. Indian farmers in lowlands all got lands on this lease. Agricultural transport is done by heavy waggons driven by 6 to 10 mules or 10-12 oxen. European farmers generally own motor trucks for carrying loads or for every other agricultural operation. The chief crop of Kenya is *Coffee*.

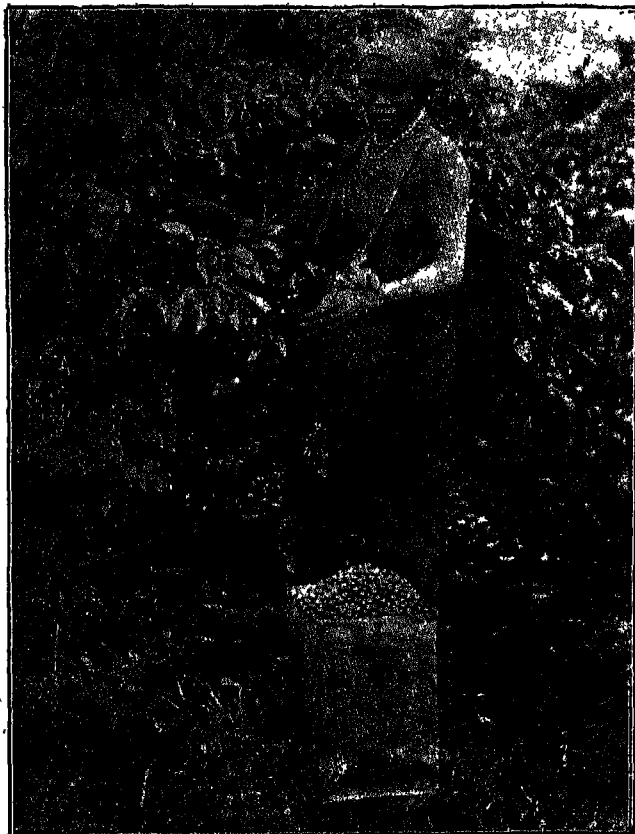
**COFFEE IN KENYA**—The first known Coffee tree (Arabica species) in the colony was planted by Mr. John Paterson in 1896, but the history of the coffee industry properly dated from 1900, when Kenya Coffee Industry was first established.

"Kenya Coffee" has evolved special characteristics of liquor and appearance which cannot be reproduced elsewhere. On the world's markets, it is one of the high grade mild coffees and be it noted that the world production of these is limited.

In 1914, there were approximately 6,000 acres of coffee under cultivation and in 1935, there were over 1,02,724 acres. Over the five year period 1930-34, the yearly average export of coffee was 12,750 tons with an average value per year of £ 9,90,000.

The usual stand of coffee trees in Kenya is 18 years, whereafter the quality deteriorates. I saw trees that were 23 years old,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet high which is the ideal height. The plantation is pruned bi-annually. Coffee is growing unirrigated, on rainfall in East Africa.

In Kenya, the trees are sown 9 feet both from tree to tree as also from row to row. About 537 coffee



Picking Coffee in Kenya Colony.





COFFEE DRYING IN KENYA

trees occupy one acre. Coffee there, is planted in rainy season and the nursery is watered everyday till germination takes place in about 6 week's time. It may be transplanted after 18 months, in the month of August.

A coffee tree may be said to be fully bearing at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 years.

**YIELD**—Average coffee yield in Kenya, is  $\frac{1}{5}$ th of a ton; the best yield may be reckoned at 28 maunds per acre. Old decaying trees are cut and ratooned. Some of the areas in which coffee in Kenya is grown are Kiambu, Limuru, Nairobi, Thika, Nyeri, etc. where land at present may be obtained at from £2/- or Rs. 28/- to Rs. 140/- or £10/- per acre.

With an outlay of about £3000/-, a plantation of coffee can be successfully started, yielding an annual income of £420/- or Rs. 5880/-.

By the end of 5th year, a crop of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  tons may reasonably be expected from 50 acres planted by the first rains after starting and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tons from the remaining 50 acres planted in the ensuing year.

**PICKING OF COFFEE**—28 lbs. or 14 seers are picked for 10 cents or one anna. Native labor is cheap enough. Seed is called Beans.

**MANURING**—Goat manure is used in Coffee before rains. Compost is made of Pampus grass like our Reed grass, earth and cow-dung, layers upon layers and composted for 3 months. Bone-meal, blood-meal and super-phosphate of double strength, are also used.

Main picking is done once a year, October to December. Odd pickings start in June. Main flowering is seen in April. Color of flowers is like Mogra or Chambelli sweet-smelling.

We saw coffee curing hydraulic factories run on water power, in East Africa. Husk (rind) is dried and used as manure. The pulp is washed and fermented in vats, sun dried or heated in machine and dried, roasted and graded.

I was shown in Kenya something like 23 different

Mango yields 2 crops a year there. Lamu, the Arab settlement, produces the best mangoes in whole of East Africa. For winter crop, mango would flower in August and September.

In Kibos, I came across Papaya trees 10 years old, with trunks like those of big woody trees.

Pineapple is ridiculously cheap in Seychelles Islands as also in Uganda. Mozambique oranges called "Machungas" in native Swahili language, could easily be had in off-season for 4 annas a dozen. In season proper, they sell 2 annas a dozen. In Zanzibar they are far cheaper, as also cocoanuts which sell 1,000 for Rs. 15/-.

There is a big Fruit Growers' Association in Kenya, meetings whereof are held at the offices of Agricultural Department. The officers of that department often attend and offer advice if necessary. They are also invited to address private Farmers' associations on crops and pests at the time of their periodical meetings.





Ripon Falls and Source of River Nile (Uganda).

## 7. LIFE IN UGANDA (PROTECTORATE)

Seventy five years ago, even the name of Uganda was hardly known to the Western Civilisation. It was in 1862, Speke and Grant were the first Europeans to reach the Capital of Mutesa the Ruler of Buganda and were astonished to find themselves among an organised and comparatively civilised people.

Uganda is a country where nature is profuse and it will interest the visitor who comes to study its fauna and flora, to learn why it is a protectorate and to see also the source of the great river Nile.

Nowhere in the other territories of East Africa, can we find a happier people than the natives of this pleasant land.

The entire country is on a much lower level than Kenya. It is a bit malarial and the dire diseases like "Black water", could be contracted here, but there is no fear if necessary precautions are taken.

(a) *JINJA*—Close to Jinja (a trading centre), about 3,869 feet high, we find the great lake Victoria again, from out of which is born the great river Nile, the source of life for ancient Egypt, commencing its long journey to the Mediterranean. The secret of its birth remained undiscovered till 1856, when a European Explorer made it known to the world for the first time. For smooth relentless might, the world cannot show the equal of Rippon Falls which can be visited from Jinja, another of the lake's delightful ports. From the great road and railway bridge spanning the mighty river, one can have a view of the Falls.

There is in Uganda a very strong and influential Indian trading community principally engaged in the cotton crop ; besides, there is 9 miles away from Jinja, a big Sugar concern owned by Indian Capitalists, Vithaldas Haridas & Coy, Ltd., known as Kakira Sugar Works. The Kakira sugar factory possessing 11,000 acres of

cane land with 20 miles of railway, five locomotives and adequate water supply from lake Victoria and employing 150 Europeans, Indians and Mauritius and 3,000 Africans, produces yearly about 10,000 tons of best white granulated sugar. The same company owns cotton ginneries, 16 in Uganda, 1 in Kenya and 2 in Tanganyika as also rubber and other plantations in Uganda.

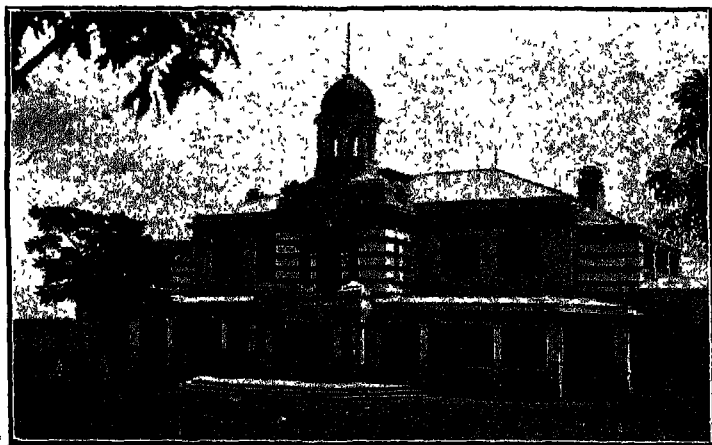
Uganda being extraordinarily rich in scenic grandeur, while on our way to Kampala, the rugged scenery that is viewed is simply superb—the country throughout being undulated.

(b) *KAMPALA*—Kampala, 3,879 feet above sea level, 307 miles and 14 hours' run from Eldoret, by Uganda mail (carrying mails to and from Kenya and Uganda twice a week) is the most picturesque commercial, native and religious capital, built exactly like Rome on seven hills. The population of the place is about 10,000 inclusive of Mumbembe Hill. The seven hills are connected with one another by hanging roads—the soil being red and sticky all round. The number of Europeans living here, is negligible. Here is a native State ruled over by a King (Kabaka) by aid of a parliament (Lukiko). His palace on one of the hills can be seen in Kampala. Baganda people, the subjects of the Kabaka are the most advanced and intelligent of all the people of Uganda. They have taken to European clothes and cycles, drive their own cars and motor buses, enjoy many of the domestic amenities of civilisation and are clamouring for more and more education. They make good domestic servants and are learning to become clerks, typists and Merchants. We find everywhere near the roads, cotton patches the cultivation whereof is bringing them money and with it the comforts and luxuries which money can buy.

In Kampala, we see huge cathedrals built by natives and thronged by native congregations. Here we also see well-equipped hospitals where native doctors and midwives are trained. Schools there, are equipped with organised sports and scout troops. A Bengali and his wife



KABAKA — Native King of Uganda.



Kabaka's Palace. (Kampala).





# KAMPALA (UGANDA). THE ROME OF THE EAST

1. Post Office. 2. Street View. 3. Entebbe.

4. Uganda Sugar Works, Lugazi.

are serving there as Principals of Boys and girls schools respectively and above all Makerere, the Nucleus-University of black East Africa, is a brave adventure in education which is making a steady progress. The missionaries have been here since the middle of seventies of the last century and to them, the protectorate owes its undoubted progress.

Kampala museum with a collection of beautiful colored birds of Uganda and charms, believed in, by natives, is worth while a visit. Arya Samajists have put up a grand building, while Sikhs, having collected donations from Moslems even, have built equally fine Gurdwara.

There is a big Uganda company, a European concern dealing principally in cotton.

(c) *ENTEBBE*—The Garden Capital and the government seat of Uganda is Entebbe which in Lugandi native language means a chair or a seat ; 25 miles from Kampala, it is so wonderfully situated that its green lawns run down to the silvery and blue waters of lake Victoria, which is overlooked by the Government House wherein resides the Governor of Uganda. On the lake shore may be seen the luxuriant avenues and splendid Botanic gardens dotted over with natural springs.

Near about the township of Entebbe, I happened to visit a farm of one Mr. Mirza, a Persian gentleman married to a native Magandi woman. His son Habib a dark fellow, looking like an Indian, with fine English accent showed me round. Mango was seen growing wild all along the road sides.

Before leaving Kampala, accompanied by a retired government medical man Dr. Thadhani, a Sindhi, I visited the newly built Asiatic ward in the Kampala General Hospital, started by the munificence of Seth Nanji Kalidas, the Indian capitalist.

With time and opportunity a visitor can penetrate into the remoter regions of Uganda to enjoy the most alluring scenery. Within a limited area there is probably nothing to equal it in Africa. There being no railway, it is all road journey.

While going to Tanganyika, I travelled by the lake Steamer *Usoga* of 600 tons carrying 16 Second class and about as many first class passengers. I had to do 271 miles on Lake waters from Port Bell near Kampala to Mwanza in Tanganyika ; the steamer service, a part of Kenya Uganda Railways, manned in part by Goan stewards who were friendly, considerate and courteous, still lacked in a bit of comfort for which I had an occasion to put down in writing my suggestions in the complaint book maintained by the service. And the superintendent of the lines, of the same status as an agent of any railway service in India unlike the latter, sent a word to see me and discussed ad seriatum all the points raised by me. He instructed the European Captain of the boat and others concerned, right in my presence to make things easy for Asiatic travelling public whose cause I had advocated.





Native Marketing of Cotton (Uganda).

## 8. AGRICULTURE IN UGANDA.

While Kenya farmers are engaged in mixed farming managed on European lines, Uganda native and Indian farmers are devoted to purely tropical agriculture. Uganda grows cotton which is long stapled. The usual staple is  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inches, but Kampala cotton is 2 inches in staple as against  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches of Busoga.

About 3 lacs of bales were exported to Bombay and Japan in 1936-37. India and Japan are great buyers of Uganda Cotton.

There is an extensive government Cotton Farm at Serere, in the interior of Uganda.

Cotton, here, is planted in June and July, on rainfall and is ready for pickings in December and January. By February the crop is over. Rainfall in Uganda is 55 to 60 inches, all well distributed, 3 to 5 inches per month

Besides cotton, tea, coffee, sisal, maize, sugarcane, tobacco and sweet potato are other crops that grow well in Uganda. Both banana and pine apple grow everywhere extensively and in large abundance, the former being the staple food of the masses who dry and pound it into flour which is eaten as a thick porridge. Because the natives swallow too much of starch of the banana, they are mostly poor in health.

Round about Jinja, one can see a lot of sweet potato. Elephant grass—a wild growth can and does yield pulp for paper-making.

Red Jowar like our “Red Jaunpuri” variety is called Kaffee Corn and they make beer out of it.

Sugarcane which is ordinarily heavily manured and highly irrigated, grows in Uganda without irrigation. It is planted there all the year round and matures in 18 months’ time. Yuba, a South African draught-resistant and P. O. Java, varieties are largely grown in Uganda. The Java variety is richer in juice contents, with 15 percent

of sucrose as against 12 to 14 percent of Yuba. They strip the cane off grass in order to hasten maturity.

Seth Nanji Kalidas the well-known Indian Capitalist is running a Sugar farm and factory known as Uganda Sugar Factory Ltd., 37 miles from Kampala at Lugazi. It is a 14-roller mill. The cane farm area is 7,200 acres; the varieties produced are Yuba (Natal variety), P. O. Java 2725 and 2875 yielding 13 to 14 percent of sucrose. 30 tons an hour is the feeding capacity and 50 tons of sugar per day is the output of the said mill. They have their own trolley trucks driven by tiny type of locomotives. Selling rate of sugar manufactured there, was 9 lbs. for a shilling, or about Rs. 5/8/- per maund. Services of a very experienced hand of 30 years' standing by way of technical adviser for Agricultural, Engineering and Chemical sides have been secured in one Major Tourney.

For molasses (a by-product) there is no market in African colonies nor is any one allowed to market it and so alcohol is distilled from it, which mixed with water is fermented before distillation. Alcohol so made, is used for motor fuel, medical purposes and pure methylated spirits.

On Mr. Mirza's farm in the vicinity of Entebbe, I saw a bumper crop of Vinyella which was ripe. The plant requires support of some tree. It looks like a parasite, but is only a climber. In Seychelles Islands there is plenty of Vinyella cultivation. Vinyella pods are ready for plucking after three years from planting. As the plant has the tendency to elongate, tops are cut off to check the vegetative growth in order to induce flower formation.

On the above farm, I also saw a few cinnamon trees growing high like jambul trees. It is the bark of the tree, that is cured and used as commercial cinnamon.

## 9. LIFE IN TANGANYIKA.

Tanganyika (Former German East Africa) was wrested by British from Germany after the last world war. It is a mandated territory and Germany wants its restoration. She may in all probability have it after the next world war.

It is named by the British, as Tanganyika after the big lake in the territory, of the same name. The area of the country is 3,80,000 square miles, double that of Sind or that of Kenya and Uganda put together. A large portion of this vast territory is still undeveloped. It is divided for administration into 8 provinces which are really like British Indian districts. These district-like provinces are again sub-divided into districts like our Indian district sub-divisions.

	DISTRICTS.	HEAD QUARTERS.
Eastern Province . . . . .	6 . . . .	Dar-es-Salaam.
Central Province . . . . .	5 . . . .	Dadoma.
Eringa (Gold area) . . . . .	5 . . . .	M'baya.
Lake province. . . . .	7 . . . .	Mwanza.
Northern (with Moshi) . . . . .	4 . . . .	Arusha.
Southern . . . . .	8 . . . .	Lindi.
Tanga . . . . .	6 . . . .	Tanga.
Western Province . . . . .	4 . . . .	Tabora.

There are in this territory, provincial commissioners aided by district officers, who in turn, are assisted by assistant district officers under whom are appointed native Akidas or Jumbas, like Indian village headmen or Patels who collect revenue on lease-hold property and poll tax for the Government.

On the judicial side, there are Resident Magistrates in every district Head Quarter doing both civil and criminal work. In Dar-es-Salaam, the capital town, there is the High Court, two Judges whereof, go out occasionally from Dar-es-Salaam whenever there is work, to hold sessions in districts both for civil and criminal work. Over



the High court, sits the East African Tribunal (a sort of appellate court) consisting of 3 judges moving periodically to Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika in the East and British Nyasaland in the Central Africa. This is how justice is administered there.

Lupa gold mining tract, in this territory is well known where a number of German families have settled down. At *Nanguwe*, 30 miles from Mwanza, there is a syndicate formed, which is called East African Trading and Engineering Company interested in a small diamond mine developed by them near M'buki.

(a) TANGA—It is a provincial town and a stronghold of Germans. Several Greeks also live and do farming here like Germans.

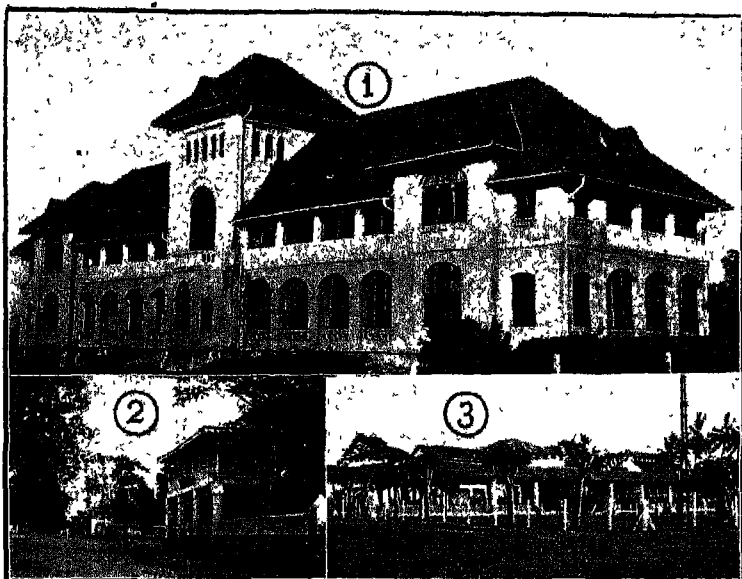
It is an alluring port and gives an easy access, by road to Amani, East Africa's great Research Station and also to Arusha, the growing capital of a superb district.

Beyond Arusha, are the Serengeti plains which are ever teeming with wild game, and the wonderful Ngorongoro Crater one of the most spectacular sights in the world. This Crater is 30 miles or more in circumference and the inner walls have a sheer drop of about 2000 feet. It is normally the home of countless herds of lions and other wild animals. The road goes round the rim of the Crater which thus serves as an unrivalled natural Zoo. It may be observed here that forest roads of Tanganyika are a great luxury.

The town of Tanga is neatly laid out and boasts of big buildings (solid structures) put up by Germans.

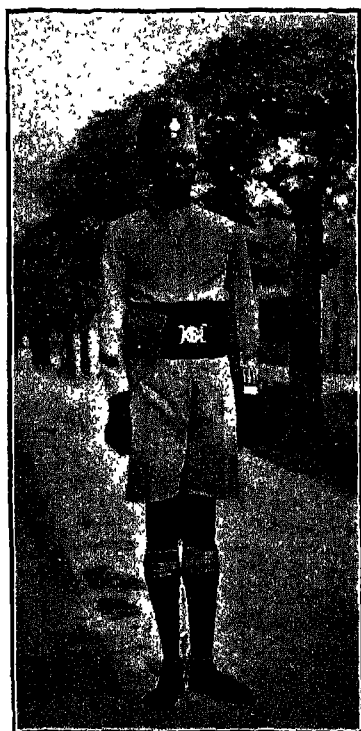
The Indian trading community consisting of mostly Gujraties, have built up prosperous trade since the earlier days of colonisation.

(b) BUKOBA—It is a lake port where a fair number of Germans and Greeks are settled down as farmers. There are about 500 Indians of whom about 200 are Hindus. Khojas being in large numbers have put up a club and a jamait khana. Goans, Gujraties and Deccanies are both in Government service and in trade. Being on a higher elevation it is a bit cold place. In the neighbour-



TANGA

1. Hospital. 2. School Street. 3. Market.



Tanganyika Native Police.

hood there are tin mines developed by Greeks. There is only one Bank there—the Barclay's. Gujratis being a pushing community, have started their own school now aided by Government, besides "Hindu Union" which is doing very good social work. Gujrati doctors, ordinary L.C.P.S. are engaged there in government service. One is drawing as much as 600 shillings or Rs. 400 per month.

(c) *MWANZA* — African territories are so detached from one another and ill-connected that people in Kenya and Uganda, generally do not know the exact conditions and have crude and imperfect notions about travel and stay in Tanganyika, the adjoining territory. Most of my friends gave me a dark picture of Mwanza, an important port on lake Victoria.

There was just one Sindhi mofussil man, running a silk and general store, who had built up an independent business and has been living there with a large family of his, since years.

The Indian community in that township, is going very strong, running there a sports club, a public library raised by subscriptions from 68 persons only and an Indian central school, all to their credit. The Indian Association activities are carried on by a young energetic Gujrati graduate one Mr. Rasiklal. I was invited to address the members of the said association, which I did, making observations on social and national aspects of Indian life in African territories.

The population of Mwanza is over 5,000, of whom 1,000 are Indians.

Morogoro and Tabora are two other towns of some importance in Tanganyika.

(d) *DAR-ES-SALAAM*—Dar-es-Salaam (the House of Peace), the capital and chief port of Tanganyika, is another beautiful harbour on East African Coast, presenting a splendid view of sea and salt works on one side and High Court, Government House and R. C. Church on the other. The public buildings are all of German

time—simple structures and less expensive and not grand and pedantic like those of the British.

Europeans' swimming club on the beach, ocean road walk, Botanical Gardens in which Chinese and West Indies Bamboos are a speciality, Maratha Mandal and Arab Associations are some of the local attractions.

Of the many stories current in Tanganyika, I learnt that during German rule, German officials were very good to subordinates. They respected Indians and their women folk in particular. I was also told by some local domiciles in the know, that during German rule, natives were flogged for thieving and that German method of administering justice was expeditious. In civil suits, for instance, Deputy Commissioners called the parties concerned straightaway and asked them face to face, settled disputes and fixed instalments ; this lower court procedure was regarded by some as defective and drastic but their High Court system satisfied all.

Tanganyika in general and Dar-es-Salaam in particular owes much to Indian trading community which has contributed a good deal to the trade and prosperity of the capital town.



DAR-ES-SALAAM.

1. Government House. 2. Masasai Crossway. 3. New Market. 4. Acacia Avenue.



## 10. AGRICULTURE IN TANGANYIKA.

Sisal, coffee, cotton, ground-nut and paddy are the crops of Tanganyika. Bukoba and the surrounding country form the coffee tract. Coffee here is grown by Indians, Natives, Greeks and Germans all alike and with equal opportunities, unlike Kenya where it is a monopoly. Tanganyika natives are mostly rich and independent as in Uganda, because they make money out of coffee and other crops. There is a big Gujrati firm dealing in different grades of coffee. There are many Indians there, holding agricultural land purchased by them from the British rulers who had seized lands owned by people during German rule, and re-sold them on 99 years' lease.

Most of the Indians complained, that due to present economic depression, the agricultural land there, did not pay.

Cotton cultivation is being gradually extended particularly in the lake province; the last year's crop I was told, yielded as many as 40,000 bales.

Many German settlers besides sisal, grow chillies and kapok or silk cotton tree of which the well known types introduced so far, are "Java" and "West Africa", yielding 2 and 10 to 12 pounds per tree, per year respectively. There are a large number of sisal factories all over Tanganyika.

(b) *SISAL INDUSTRY*—As Jute is to Bengal in India, Sisal is to Kenya and Tanganyika. It is an economic plant and yet it grows almost wild. The plant is botanically named as "*Agave Rigida Sisalana*". In Kenya it is a monopoly but elsewhere in East Africa, it is not.

In Mexico, its original home, the plant generally lives about 25 years, but in salubrious climate and fertile soil of East Africa it lives its life from 6 to 9 years. When the plant is about to die, a pole grows out of its centre, in appearance, looking like gigantic asparagus. This pole then branches out, blossoms and seeds, after which



the little plants called bulbils form, where the seed bolls fall off. Each pole yielding about 2000 bulbils grows to about 25 feet high, in 3 months' time. When dry, these poles are useful for hut building, fuel and other purposes.

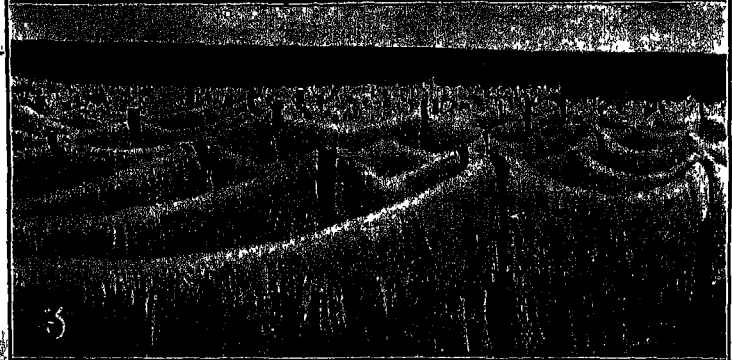
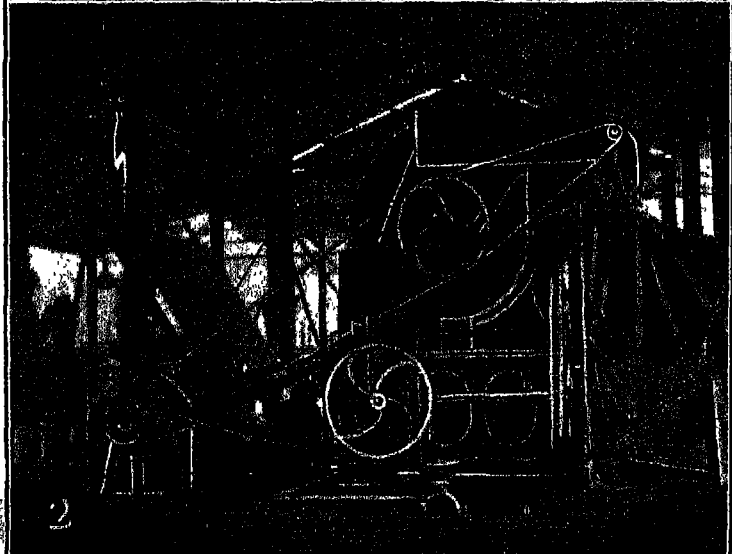
In Tanganyika, Sisal was first introduced in 1893, when 1000 bulbils were imported from Florida; only a few bulbils survived on landing and served to propagate the species. It was from here that bulbils were sent for, by Kenya government in 1907. Very little tillage is done as a rule, before planting sisal, which thrives well both on the coast, as on the highlands.

Planting is done preferably before rains, without any special care, as the plants are very hardy. With abundant rainfall, sisal grows rapidly but it can as well stand long periods of drought. Waterlogged soil is about the only land in which sisal will not thrive. Bulbils are generally nurseried because they are too small to plant out when they fall from the pole.

The usual spacing of plants, observed is 32 to 36 square feet. During the first two years after planting, catch-crops such as maize and beans are grown with profit, between the plants as they also help to keep the land clean.

The first cutting generally taken after 3 to 3½ years yields about 70 leaves per plant or about one ton of clean fibre per acre. After this, 2 cuttings of 20 to 25 leaves are taken per annum. A sisal plantation yields upto 3½ tons of fibre per acre in its life span of 7 to 8 years. One man can cut and carry 2000 leaves per day. Practised men can double this quantity however.

Every sisal estate in East Africa, has a factory of its own situate on the spot. Water supply is a consideration which cannot be overlooked. There should be a good fall of water from the factory, so that the water-borne waste, may be easily disposed of. The factory may be either steam or electric power driven. The leaves are fed regularly into the decorticator, by means of a conveyor table when the skin and fleshy parts of the leaf-blade are torn away from the fibre, by steel knives bolted on to



1. Sisal Cutting. 2. Sisal Decorticator. 3. Sisal Drying.



revolving drums. During this operation water flows through the machine and washes the fibre white. The clean wet fibre is then carried out to the lines to dry whereafter it is brushed, baled and pressed. Brushing and beating are essential to dress the dry fibre. A power driven press is usually employed in East Africa to bale the dry fibre, bales being of 3 to 6 maunds each.

During my tour in Tanganyika territory, I visited 14 miles away from Tanga township a big sisal estate and sisal curing factory belonging to a German planter, who had 2000 hectares (1 hectre =  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres) under sisal cultivation. There they made 4 bales out of every ton of fibre. Six tons or 24 bales, electrically worked, were pressed per day.

One could study there all the processes of sisal cutting, decortication, sun-drying, cleaning, polishing and grading and finally pressing on that particular estate with accuracy and ease.

The pre-war price of sisal fibre was £29 per ton which however rose to the boom price of £99 per ton. The present price stood at £26½ per ton.

In East Africa, sisal plant has so far suffered very little from any insect pest probably on account of certain amount of acid contained in the leaves. Porcupines pull out young plants here and there, but that damage is negligible.

No practical use has as yet been found for the by-products of sisal, juice whereof, is known to contain a small percentage of saccharine matter and alcohol can therefore be made out of it, but no one has as yet done it on commercial lines. Sisal waste has however proved an excellent mulch for coffee crop.

The chief use of sisal hemp is for binder twine ; it is also used for making ropes of different types. It is further used as an aid for the manufacture of artificial silk and paper. It goes to make marine cordage as well.

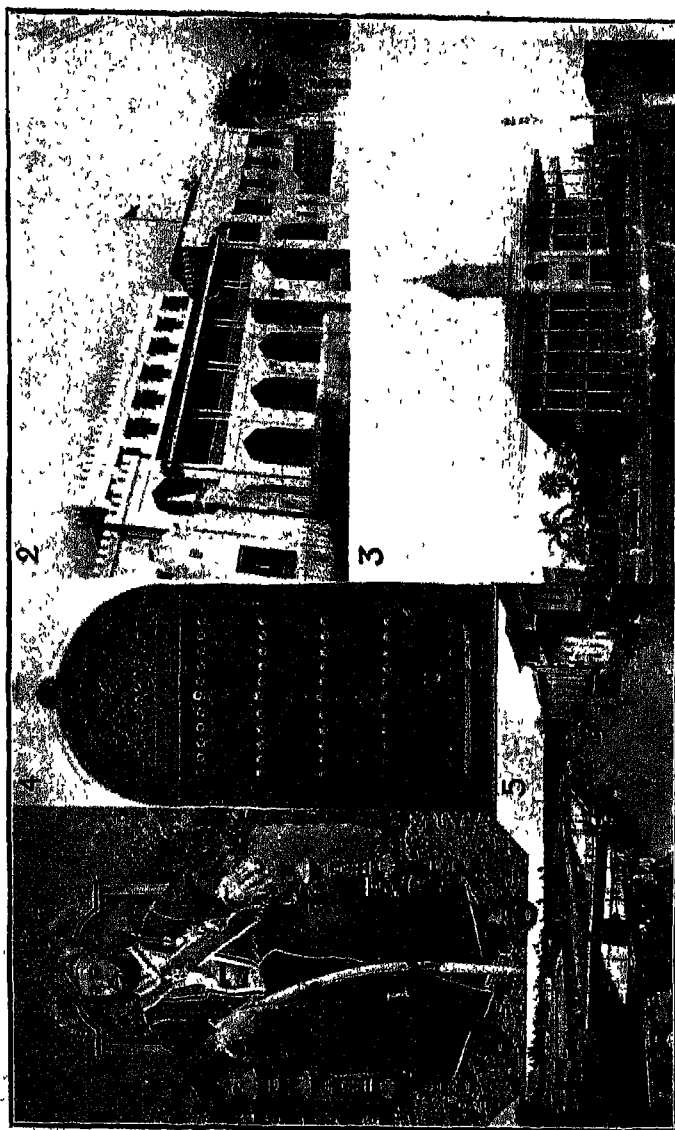
COMMERCIAL  
USES

Sisal fibre unlike Jute, is stronger, whiter in color and more neat-looking and they have started making gunny

bags out of it in England, but they are very expensive as compared to jute bags made in India. While in Kenya, I was shown by the Managing Director of European Settlers' Association, a specimen of sisal fibre bag manufactured in England. The specimen looked no doubt pretty, whitish and silky to the touch, but the cost was the consideration.

I was very much struck by the benevolence of Kenya government, in their own home interests ofcourse, when I learnt both through government publications as also by enquiry from individuals in the know, that the sisal industry has recently promoted a bill in Kenya, to levy a cess on all exports of fibre, proceeds whereof, are sought to be used, almost entirely for research particularly industrial research, into new uses for the sisal fibre.





# ZANZIBAR

1. Sultan the Ruler. 2. Sultan's palace. 3. Betul-e-Ajaib.
4. Arabic style of Door. 5. A street scene.

## 11. LIFE IN ZANZIBAR (PROTECTORATE)

The town of Zanzibar, the Capital of the beautiful Island of the same name, 40 and 140 miles from Dar-es-Salaam and Mombasa respectively, is one of the most "Eastern" of Cities, an entrepôt through the ages, for the trade of the East, the anchorage of ships of every nationality of the world and the meeting place of every race. It is the heart of that old African Empire of Zinj, which stretched far beyond the great lakes, at a date when no white man had penetrated even a little way into the interior of the Dark Continent. The Swahili language which is spoken in a refined way on the Island of Zanzibar still remains on the East Coast as also over much of Africa, to bear witness to the glory and terror, that were once Zanzibar's. Being an early Arab settlement, the town of old style, with old Arab relics still in prominent evidence it is being gradually modernised by the British. Zanzibar can boast of the most entrancing roads for motoring and unsurpassed sea-bathing.

Museum (Betul-Amani, in Arabic) has a white domed building of saracenic style.

Zanzibar is nominally ruled over by an Arab Sultan who is more or less a figure-head. His Highness Syed Khalifa Bin Harun, the present Sultan having ascended the throne in 1911 celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his reign last year in the year 1936, having completed his 25 years of rule. He has one son and six grandchildren. The Sultan has marine service and customs department running in his own name as also the flying of the flag. Even the postage stamps bear his effigy. Only the currency of the Island, is British East African. The British Resident there, is ipso facto a Governor. The Sultan being under protection has very little to do as an administrator. He is living a life of luxury and ease. About 5 miles away from Zanzibar, may be seen Sultan's "Kibweni" palace overlooking the sea. There



is another palace called 'Mahrub' immediately outside the town, which stands amidst very old mango and cocoa-nut trees ; its outside wall is one mile long. It is said, old Arab king's concubines used to reside here.

On entering the town of Zanzibar, one gets strong clove smell, reminding the visitor of the importance of the Island due to clove trade. Betul-Ajaib, near about Sultan's white palace, is a magnificent structure, with a clock tower at the top, which must necessarily attract the visitor's attention, on landing on the Island. Originally it was a residence of Sultan, but now it is converted into Secretariat Offices. There is a gunfire daily at 8 o'clock in the evening. Time reckoned here is the Arabic time. Six o'clock of Zanzibar time corresponds to 12 o'clock noon by standard time.

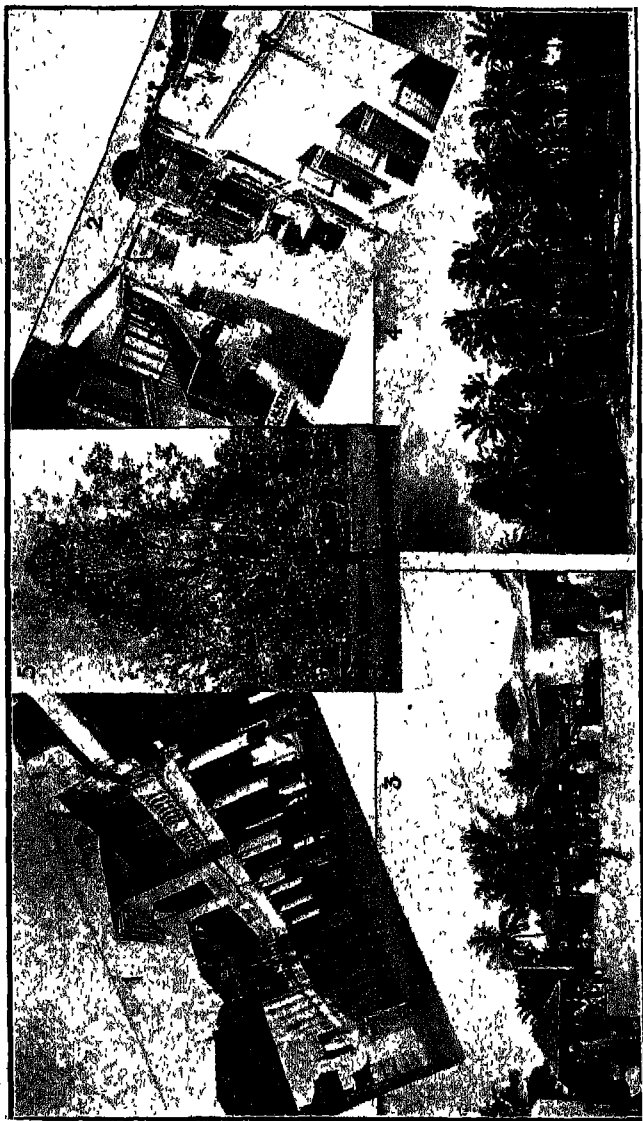
Streets of the town are very narrow ; even the main street is not an exception, although it has been modernized these days with police guiding traffic by red and green high signals.

With a few exceptions, buildings are old Arabic style structures, with massive carved doors. Even Europeans have to live in such houses of oriental style.

Besides the main Island of Zanzibar, there are in its close proximity, three other small Islands viz. Pemba, Snake and Prison Islands. The total population of Zanzibar and Pemba Islands is 2,35,000 souls of whom 33,000 are Arabs and about 14,000 Indians of whom again 2000 or so are in Pemba ; of the remaining 12,000, about 4000 are Ismaili Khojas.

A good number of Parsis reside in Zanzibar and they have captured most of big government jobs in Customs, Banks, Post Office and Secretariat.

Zanzibar was originally an Arab settlement. Indians came later, to trade and lived side by side with Arabs, for years. At last, they began to disagree among themselves with the result that Indians applied to the British Consulate to protect their rights grubbed by Arabs. And so the British came to protect Zanzibar. They are gradually getting to assume full mastership and the rights of both



# ZANZIBAR

1. Post Office. 2 & 3. Street scenes. 4. Coconut Palm Forest. 5. Clove tree.



monopolies like those of clove planting etc. have been created. While I was there, the question of restricting clove trade was agitating the minds of Indians. The Binder's Report in particular had created such a stir among Indian community that on landing on the Island of Zanzibar, I found that the first question on the lips of almost every Indian settled there, was "What has been done by authorities at Home in regard to the Land Alienation Act and the repeal of the clove Industry laws"?

In my interview to "Zanzibar Voice", while talking about public affairs, I could not help paying my tribute to His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar for the existence of a liquor law on the statute book by which no liquor is sold to Indians or Arabs except under licences specially issued. Generally Hindus do get liquor under a licence but not Arabs. Even Goans and Europeans have to obtain licences. An offence under this law is said to be punishable with a sentence of 5000 shillings or 3 years' rigorous imprisonment.

The Indian National Association of Zanzibar is ever vigilant jealously guarding the rights of Indian community settled there. Mr. Gulamali M. A., LLB., of Allahabad University, a Khoja lawyer originally of Dhar State (Central India) was the Vice-President of the said Association about the time I was there.

## 12. AGRICULTURE IN ZANZIBAR.

Zanzibar Island is green throughout. The country is verdant even while rain fails for 2 or 3 consecutive years. Even jungles are veritable gardens. Soil is very retentive, rich and soft and water table is very high. There are no mountains or lakes on the Island. Natural springs are the source of perennial streams. What a wonderful natural arrangement! There is a big Government experimental station at Mtoni 11 miles away from the town of Zanzibar, where scientific cultivation is done. I visited the biggest farm (shamba) of one Arab, with 7000 clove trees and 4000 cocoanut palms running in miles.

In Zanzibar gardens, nothing pleased me so much as real Champa flowers (locally called "Linge Linge") somewhat spotted on inside. Arabs called it "Kilooa" which is so very sweet smelling.

I also visited a Kathiawari R. J. Ladha's garden (or shamba) wherein, he grew vegetables and cocoanuts of which there were as many as 1000 trees. Black pepper trees are also planted there. Citrus fruits, particularly, oranges and mosambies were given special manurial treatment as under :—

Common salt—1 maund.

Lime                   —1 maund.

The two are to be mixed and given to roots of trees dug out. This treatment makes the fruit sweeter. It is a tried treatment adopted in Zanzibar.

**COCOANUT INDUSTRY** — Botanical name of Cocoanut is *Cocos Nucifera*. The cocoanut plantation must be situated within 100 miles of the sea-coast, so that the sea breeze may bring enough of salt into the soil to keep up its vigour for this crop. At the time of planting also  $\frac{1}{2}$  a seer of crude salt should be used per plant. The best seed cocoanuts are imported from Ceylon or Madras ; at the latter place, cocoanut plantation is regularly irrigated.

In the flowering season, the female flower will not open till all the pollen have been shed. After pollination, the stigmas darken in color. As the endosperm within the nut develops, the milk gradually disappears.

The cocoanut fructifies in about 5 years, after planting in hot weather. The nuts are ripe and ready for plucking in 10 months' time after flowering. If the nuts are allowed to remain too long on trees, the fibre gets coarse and brittle. The fibre of green nuts is lighter and finer, but it is less in quantity and weaker.

The area under cocoanut in India, has been estimated over 4,80,000 acres.

An acre planted with 200 cocoanut palms (about 15 feet apart) would yield annas eight per tree or Rs. 100/- per acre, for fruit and 2 to 2½ annas per tree or nearly Rs. 30/- for 200 trees for coir.

The tree is put to varied uses :—for copra, oil, soap-making, timber, fibre, fuel, and vegetable. Besides vinegar is made of the juice of the palm, also toddy, punch and liquor. Gur and Sugar are also made out of the juice. Soap and candles made out of cocoanut oil, have a larger percentage of water than any other soap and candles. Being soluble in saline or hard water, it is used in the manufacture of marine soap, but the smell being offensive, it is not used in the manufacture of high class toilet soaps. One to two million gallons of cocoanut oil is exported annually chiefly to England.

The sliced kernel grown in India and dried in the sun contains 30 to 50 percent of oil. The country method of oil extraction is either by dry expression or extraction by boiling; this latter process consists in boiling the Kernels with an equal quantity of water, then grating and squeezing in a press. The emulsion thus obtained is again boiled until the oil is found to rise to the surface. 15 to 20 nuts yield 2 quarts of oil treated in either way. The first method is the one commonly employed. About 10 million pounds of coir and coir-made rope are now exported annually from India. 50 cocoanuts yield about 3

seers of coir. About 6 lacs of rupees worth of nuts are also exported annually from India.

Next to cloves, cocoanut is the most important industry in Zanzibar whence, in 1924, 58,52,204 rupees worth copra, cocoanuts, soap, oil, rope and twine and coir, were exported to foreign countries.

The only common disease to which cocoanut palm is subject to, is known as Gummosis, by which the nuts all fall off before they are mature. The natives of Zanzibar are adepts at climbing trees by using a piece of rope tied round their ankles. The picked nuts are quickly husked with the aid of a strong iron spike. They are then split open and the meat is dried.

The best copra is made by drying the meat in the sun. In showery weather, good quality copra can be made in a very easily built Kiln. Natives make much copra over a smoky fire during wet weather, but it is of poor quality and does not fetch good price.

Sun dried copra is white and keeps well. It is used in the manufacture of foods such as Margarine, as also in the preparation of the best cocoanut oils. Kiln dried copra, being not as good as the sun-dried one, is not as valuable for export; the oil produced from it, is not as colorless as is that from the sun-dried copra.

In Zanzibar, a good deal of locally made copra is used, in the manufacture of oil and soap. Why Kiln drying is resorted to, on the island, is because, it is cheaper, nut husks being used as fuel.

This oil is extracted from dry copra by pressure.

**COCOANUT OIL** Zanzibar copra contains from 63 to 70 percent of oil. The best quality oil is obtained from sun dried copra and is colorless. It is used in the manufacture of soap and in such foods as margarine, cakes, biscuits and sweets. The residual material left after the extraction of the oil, is known as cocoanut cake and is a valuable cattle food and the excreta of animals fed on this cake, is a valuable manure too.

In Zanzibar mottled and other kinds of soap, are made

in large quantities. About 22,000 maunds of this soap were exported some years ago, valued at 5,10,182 rupees. The wellknown firm of Ismailjee Jivanjee are principally dealing in the said locally made soap.

Very little use is made of the cocoanut coir in Zanzibar ; a small industry is carried on, in the South of the Island and also at the jail. Here most of the husks are wasted. Only some are used for fuel. In Ceylon and on Malabar coast in India, there is a big industry in coir and coir products and husks are sold for 10 rupees a 1000.

In South India, the removal of the fibre from the shell is effected by forcing the nut upon a pointed implement stuck into the ground. By this arrangement, one man can clean 1000 nuts a day. The fibrous husks are next submitted to a soaking which is done in a variety of ways. In some places, they are placed in pits of salt or brackish water for 6 to 18 months (fresh water spoiling the fibre). If steam is admitted into the steeping vat to warm the water, the operation is rendered shorter and the fibre is also softened and improved. The further separation of the fibre from the husk is largely done by hand. After thorough soaking, the husks are beaten with heavy wooden mallets and then rubbed between the hands, until all the interstitial cellular substances are separated from the fibrous portion. When quite clean, it is arranged into a loose roping preparatory to being twisted which is done between the palms of the hands in such a way as to produce a yarn of 2 strands at once. This is all about coir rope making in India.

The coir rope to the extent of about 1000 maunds, valued at 17,427 rupees was exported from Zanzibar, some years ago, to Kenya and Tanganyika territories, alone. Cocoanut matting is also attempted in small quantities at the jail on the Island of Zanzibar.

On the Malabar coast of India, Moplahs make excellent cocoanut fibre mats of varied designs.

In Ceylon, there are hundred and one uses to which



cocoanut palm is put to and that is why that tree is looked upon, as a tree of life sustenance there.

**COCOA**—In African world, the plant of Cocoa, botanically known as "Theobroma Cacao", was known to grow on Seychelles Islands, in the earliest times of their colonization. It is from there, that the plant was taken and introduced on the Island of Zanzibar as early as 1898. At Dunga, on the Islands, it is growing very well.

It requires a sheltered position and fairly good cultivation in deep soil.

The plant is propagated from seed and begins to bear when about 5 years old.

The preparation of the crop for market, is rather laborious, as the seeds have to be separated, fermented and then dried before shipment. It is used in the manufacture of cocoa, chocolate, theobromine and cocobutter. Present value of cocoa, is 50 to 80 shillings or 31 to 50 rupees per cwt.

**NUTMEG & MACE**—(Botanical Names :—*Myristica Fragans*, Houtt.) The tree is usually grown from seed, but is sometimes grafted. The difficulty about this tree is, that male cannot be distinguished from the female until after the first flowering. It is usual to leave one male tree to every ten female trees. Trees bear freely from ten years old and upwards. Cultivation is very simple and the preparation of the kernel and aril involves little labour. The trees thrive very well in Zanzibar.

### 13. PUBLIC SERVICES IN EAST AFRICA.

The country is throughout well-policed. The police in rural areas are always on the alert, checking licenses of vehicles and motorbuses and taking special care to see that the speed is not exceeded.

European police officials in Kenya and elsewhere are very polite as in Western countries. They can all speak native Swahili language. There have been instances, I was told, in which, the police has been dragged to courts of law for impertinence. I saw inspectors of police sirring farmers. One can safely say, that public services there, are very much superior to those of India in as much as officials are very attentive to public.

Transport in African territories in general and in Kenya and other eastern colonies in particular, is all co-ordinated.

Railways and Harbours constitute one department and are everywhere controlled by Government.

5 to 10 percent concessions are allowed to combined travel by air and rail. The railways co-operate to that extent with air service also. Railway travel is very much costlier in East Africa than either in India or in South Africa. There is not much difference between air travel and 2nd class railway travel. The railway service in South Africa is faster, apart from being cheaper than in East. The railway fares on East African railway system are more than double those in India. The first and second class carriages both on East and South African railway systems, are of corridor type. Soaps and towels are supplied free to first and second class passengers, while a clean bed for the night, could always be had on a payment of 3 shillings or nearly two rupees for each night of travel.

Slowness of railway travel is rather irksome. Because of the undulated nature of the country and high altitudes, the speed is restricted. And that is also the reason why railway construction has been expensive—that coupled

with the fact that the railway officials are highly paid, explains why the railway travel there, is costly.

Second class coaches appeared to me to be more comfortable and more stylish on Tanganyika railway than in Kenya-Uganda railway system. Railway stations on the former service, are mostly double storeyed, looking like bungalows ; speed of trains never exceeded 20 to 30 miles per hour and engines running were of old style, consuming wood fuel. Kilometers and not miles were counted on this system.

The easiest and the cheapest mode of travel in Africa is by automobile, as railway takes long hours, is slow and costs you a good bit. The roads are all very good and motorable and roughly it costs 5 shillings or Rs. 3/- per every 70 miles, by motor bus service.

Wherever I went in East Africa, in every township I found, there was practically no postal delivery system except perhaps for Natives. The P. O. Box was in vogue. In the G. P. O. at Nairobi, I came across an auto-stamp-selling machine ; on putting 10 and 50 cents coins in the slot of the machine and by pressing the button perforated stamp rolls of required denomination came up wherefrom stamps could be torn out. For a letter to India from British Africa, it costs 50 cents or five annas which is cheaper than Indian foreign mail rates to the same destination. This auto-selling of stamps proved a blessing particularly after the close of the post office.

Dar-es-Salaam G.P.O. in Tanganyika provided several latest facilities quite unlike in India, e.g. call bell at the counter of receiving telegrams, call bell outside to be used in case of complaints, a fine balance in a glass case for weighing letters, for public use, a big perpetual calendar showing day, date and month, a very big and stylish writing table etc.

## 14. SOCIAL AND POLITICAL LIFE IN EAST AFRICA.

There are about 30,000 Indians living in Kenya colony inclusive of Indian settlers numbering about 50 who do farming in lowlands.

Separate electorate exists for Indians and Europeans and both these communities live in separate areas. European population though considerably smaller than Indians, have as many as 11 seats in Kenya legislature as against 5 seats only given to Indians, though they far out-number the Europeans

(a) *TAXES IN KENYA*—All business, trades, industries and professions are required to be licensed in Kenya. The annual license fees that different trades and professions have to pay are as under :—

An Accountant or Auditor.	300/-	Shillings.
An Advocate.	300/-	"
An Architect.	300/-	"
A Banker.	4000/-	"
A Building contractor.	200/-	"
A Baker.	100/-	"
A Coffee curer.	500/-	"
A Commercial traveller.	400/-	"
A Washing dyeing works.	100/-	"
An Electric Light Coy.,	2500/-	"
A Hotel keeper.	25/-	"
An Insurance Company.	200/-	"
A Newspaper-Daily.	200/-	"
A Photographer.	50/-	"
A Stock broker.	200/-	"
A Trader upto £ 300.	75/-	"
A Trader upto £ 1000.	300/-	"
A Trader upto £ 2000.	400/-	"
	and so on.	

NOTE—Most of the Bakers, Insurance Companies, Newspaper Publishers and almost all Coffee Curers (coffee growing being a monopoly) and Hotel-keepers are as a rule white people and they have to pay lighter taxes in comparison to other tradesmen.

(b) *GRADED POLL TAX*—Thirty shillings minimum tax, every year, has to be paid by every non-native person, provided his or her taxable income does not exceed £100.

Upto	£ 200,	it is	40	Shillings.	
„	„ 300,	„ „	60	„	
„	„ 400,	„ „	80	„	
„	„ 500,	„ „	100	„	and so on.

While I was there in 1936, the income tax question was in the air and agitating Indian public mind. Indians who would have to pay income tax, being 3 percent of their total number, clamoured for the levy of income tax, as against 97 percent of Europeans who were running big firms and earning fat dividends for their shareholders and partners in England, who had never even once seen Africa, stoutly opposed it.

The levy of income tax was a government proposal put forward with a view to strengthen the finances of Kenya colony. Indians who came mostly from middle classes, with only a sprinkling of the rich, supported the government as against the Europeans who in bulk, were capitalists, opposed it tooth and nail. Indians who at present, pay 40 shillings per head (with earning capacity above £100/-) as non-native poll tax, besides 20 shillings per head as education tax, would with the levy of income tax, automatically get relief in the former class of taxes.

There is a big organisation viz. "Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce" which meets periodically or under emergent circumstances and to which, some 41 chambers throughout Kenya and Uganda are affiliated.

There is the Shop Hours' Act applying to most places like Nairobi, Nakuru, Kisumu, Eldoret, Jinja, Kampala and Dar-es-Salaam. This act is sought to be extended gradually to all townships in East Africa, but unfortunately Indians were opposing it, as affecting their daily earnings. As it is, except in purely Indian bazaars in towns like Zanzibar, Mombasa, Kampala and Dar-es-Salaam; all shops close down from 12 to 2 at noon for lunch and after 6 P.M. for the night.

There are in East Africa what are known as "Vigilance committees" to guard and protect the interests of white colonists who have fallen on bad times now. These white colonists have of late, created several monopolies affecting Asiatics adversely. European traders are not so hostile as European farmers who have, as it were, deep-seated grudge against Indians.

The white settlers in order to oust Indian middle men, recently brought the "Dairy Product Marketing Bill" for the second time, before Kenya legislature. The said Bill was opposed by Indians and it was thrown off. By this Bill European dairymen want all milk supply from Natives who would be disallowed to sell directly in the market on the plea that they sell mixed and contaminated milk. White people raise a hue and cry and ask every one to buy the same from the White only.

Europeans have however succeeded in getting an enactment passed, known as "Maize Marketing Act" by which, Kutchia corrugated sheet markets in open areas are enacted, where all maize produced by Natives is concentrated. Government Agricultural Department officials come, grade the produce and put price on it. Natives have no other option but to sell their evaluated crops at fixed prices. They can never undersell while white people can sell it in open market dictating their own rates. And Indian traders have to obtain licenses from Government to buy maize in the mofussil government controlled markets. A blow thereby is aimed at Indian trading interests.

(c) *ADMINISTRATION*—The colonial administration lacks in red-tapism, unnecessary pomp and glamour and is happily free from cobwebs of routine and needless paraphernalia. The officials in African territories are easily accessible.

Our officials in India particularly Indians have all along been out to out-herod the Herod. Most of them overdo things. They have been very fastidious in observing some of 'old meaningless official conventions. Time-spirit however has of late brought about a good deal of change.

I saw the Governor of Kenya who completed his term of office recently, so very different in his bearing and deportment from our Indian provincial governors. Even at a public function, I could see, he was conducting himself in a very simple and unassuming manner, going about, like a common personage. Our governors in India move, in marked contrast, in a particular fashion, attended as they invariably are by private secretaries and A.D.C.'s following them like shadows. This Kenya Governor Sir Joseph Byrne was fortunately well inclined towards Indians and that is why white settlers made it so hot for him. 'Kenya Daily Mail,' an Indian public organ of Mombasa wrote about him as under :—

"We offer a hearty welcome to His Excellency at the Coast and wish him a very pleasant stay amongst the people who understand and appreciate him more than people elsewhere, particularly those living on white Highlands."

The most happy feature of the administration there, is that all public and official correspondence is couched in respectful terms, as in Western countries. In reply letters from Governors of Uganda and Tanganyika they use the words "With compliments to so and so, from the Governor of such and such province," and they would very often write in their own hand and addressing people as "Dear Sir." I happened to see the forms of correspondence adopted by officials in several places. In Kenya, an ordinary man, a tailor by profession and above all an Indian, applied for permission, to the Commissioner of Police C. I. D for raffling an article offering to pay a fee of 7 shillings as the law of the land demanded. I happened to see the correspondence and I could see the police Commissioner addressing the tailor as Mr : and Sir. On enquiry from local Indians, I was assuringly informed, that in spite of the political disabilities Indians were subjected to, all correspondence by officials was termed in a very courteous language. The natural question arises "Are barbers and tailors addressed the same way by the Revenue and Police Officials in India?" The memo :

form of correspondence so current in official India, was practically unknown there. Our forms and language employed in court summons to appear for evidence in an Indian Court of Law, or the other Revenue departmental orders, are simply disgraceful to say the least.

From the political point of view therefore, the lot of Indians in East Africa, on the whole is much better than in South Africa.

(d) *SOCIAL LIFE*—From social point of view also, Indians are fairly well off. Khoja ladies as also Indian women in general appeared to be very much progressive there than they are in India. Among Hindus, 90 percent are Gujraties, Kathiawaries and Cutchies ; the rest are Sikhs with a sprinkling of Sindhies and Deccanies. In Mombasa and Nairobi, Indians are a flourishing community. They are running Social Service Leagues, Hindu Mandals, Indian Associations, Sikh Gurdwaras, Arya Samajs, Sanatan Dharam Sabhas, Khoja Jamait Khanas and a whole host of social and religious uplift institutions, in full swing. In Mombasa, the Social Service League, Patel Club and Indian Association go strong. In Nairobi, Sanatan Dharam Sabha, the Patel Brotherhood, Sikh Union, Indian Christian Union are doing good work.

In Nakuru township, where there are not more than 2000 Indians, they have a beautiful Gurdwara, Krishna Mandir, Arya Samaj, Punjabi Moslem Mosque and an Indian Association running. In Kampala (Uganda) Arya Samajists collected subscriptions from local moslems also, for the erection of their Mandir.

At Zanzibar, Khoja Jamait Khana, Hindu Mandal and Indian National Association sustain the social and national life of resident Indians. Parsis are found in good number there, controlling services ; some of the Parsi ladies are teachers in local middle schools. At Dar-es-Salaam, Arya Samaj have a number of small institutions running. Their school hall utilised as public hall (75 ft : x 45 ft :) is the biggest in East Africa. The Hindu Mandal, Indian Association, Khoja Schools and



Institutions, Arab Association, Maratha Mandal are all teeming with life.

I was introduced to a Gujrati friend of 20 years' service in Police Department, one Mr. M. H. Patel, who had worked for social uplift of the Indian community for a number of years. As president of the Hindu Mandal at Dar-es-Salaam, he collected funds for putting up the modernised and fine crematorium fitted with iron grate and chimney on the roofed platform. The medical dispensary, the Poor Fund and the crematorium are the three things managed by the Hindu Mandal of the place. The Physical Culture Institute for Indian Youngsters is also doing splendid work at Dar-es-Salaam.

At Bukoba, there is a Jamait Khana, a Khoja Club and a Vidya Mandal; the latter has started an Indian school of their own, now aided by Government.

At Mwanza, Indians are running their own Gymkhana Club, a Public library and an Indian Association.

The standard of life and cost of living are higher in British colonies in East Africa, than in India. Pounds there, are flowing like rupees and shillings like annas. Many a time, do Native boys refuse a tip of 50 cents or five annas. They would accept nothing less than a shilling each time. Life is regularised in every walk of life and time is money there, as in the occident.

## 15. RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN EAST AFRICA.

Nowhere on the face of the globe, is racial discrimination so acute and so much in full and free display as in Africa, particularly in the South, which has beaten the world record in that respect. There is not a fraction part of this discrimination in East Africa where whatever color prejudice against colored races does exist, is and has never been statutory.

The disease of discrimination in South Africa which is all white, is getting to be more contagious day by day and now threatens to spread to Eastern parts. While I was there in 1936, there was a talk of interests of Indians being in grave danger consequent on a definite move, on the part of white settlers of East Africa in collaboration with the South African whites to establish the same kind of Government as is existent at present in South Africa. The Defence Secretary of S. African Government made a definite statement in August 1936, that it should be the aim of white settlers in East Africa to establish a Union Government and move towards a Federation of East and South Africa. He said that, Lord Francis Scot, the leader of the Europeans in Kenya legislature had gone to London after the Order-in-Council which dealt with the elimination of Indians in Kenya, having any rights and their having no right to purchase and hold lands in the highlands. This Order-in-Council referred to Natives of Kenya also.

Throughout East Africa, no Asiatic however rich or refined can stay at a hotel owned by a European. Even if there are rooms available, they would say, "Sorry! No room". There was a co-traveller with me, one Mr. Sneft, an Austrian young jew ; at Mombasa, he chose to put up in the only hotel owned by a Parsi (an Indian). The immigration officer, calling to see him the following day, asked him why he, a white man, was

staying at a non-European hotel and even threatened to have his £50 deposit forfeited.

Unlike as in South Africa, the bus service in East Africa is happily free from the contagion of segregation which however, is in full play in other respects. The cinema houses in Nairobi as elsewhere are partitioned out in two sections, the whites sitting on one side and the Asiatics on the other. The former are to pay half a shilling or so more than the latter, though the seats of both may be in the same line and within the same distance from the screen. No Asiatic section tickets would be issued to white people even if some of them, new arrivals may be willing to sit along with Asiatics. Go where you will throughout East Africa, in every township, European residential localities are separate and far apart from those of Asiatics. Highlands of altitudes varying from 5 to 8 thousand feet in Kenya colony are monopolised by Europeans where they do farming exclusively. Indians have of late been allowed to farm on lowlands.

Since 1923, acquisition of agricultural land in high lands, is forbidden to Indians.

The economic depression ruled there too, in common with the rest of the world and Europeans largely due to that and partly due to their high standard of living, had quite a large number of coffee and other plantations for sale and they would sell at a loss, allow themselves to be ruined rather than sell them to Asiatics whose low standard of living and unhealthy competition they are ever mortally afraid of.

Among the various Estate sales advertised for, in Kenya from time to time, the following few instances may be cited in which ridiculously low offers are made :—

1. A very fine farm of 3870 acres on Timan river, situate at an altitude of 6200 feet, 15 miles from Nanyuki township. There is a co-operative creamery 8 miles distant. The Estate consists of several well-built Bandas in mud with shingle roofs, pig-sties, dairy stores, bull shed, concrete cattle dip, orchard, good garden and 2

hay fields. This farm at present carries about 700 heads of cattle, also pigs and ponies. It is clean of all diseases and offers some of the best grazing in the colony. *Price 35 shillings or Rs. 25 per acre or near offer.*

2. Four miles from township of Nakuru, an undeveloped farm of 1,700 acres is offered at 12½ shillings or Rs. 8/- per acre, for a quick sale.

3. A splendid mixed farm of 3000 acres, 7 miles from the township of Eldoret. A small brick house and out buildings. £1 only per acre.

4. At Kipkabus, delightful and fertile farm of 675 acres. 150 acres under Lucerne, 24 cattle, various implements, double storied furnished house all for £3400 or about Rs. 70 per acre.

These and many more sales are by no means open to wealthy Indians even.

The most funny part of this discriminatory drama is the bar against Asiatics in Kenya from raising any commercial crops like sisal, wheat and coffee which are grown exclusively by Europeans.

There is besides, a settlers' ordinance framed by White Settlers' Association that no Europeans could employ Indian estate managers.

I came across an exception, however, in one old man Mr. Graham Bell, who I was told, was the former president of the Kenya White Settlers' Association. He had employed an Indian manager one Mr. C. K. Patel to manage his estate of 600 acres, about 10 miles from Nairobi, yielding a cash out-turn of 100000 shillings per year. In my interview with the European owned and edited Daily of Kenya "The East African Standard" I made a particular mention of this, saying that in this land of racial discrimination and color prejudice, Mr. Patel provided a solitary example of an Indian successfully running a large European estate. I wished Europeans to be wise to employ many more experienced Indians, which would assuredly promote better understanding between the two races.

The worst of it all is that the Natives wherever they

have come under the civilising influences of European Christian Missions, are taught to hate Indians putting down the latter as inimical to the interests of the former.

To return to the discriminatory atmosphere of East Africa, the color difference between Asiatics and Europeans exists exactly in the same way as between Hindus and Muslims in India. In railway services for instance, drinking water, platform benches, lavatories, carriages, restaurants and other things are separate for both

There was a greater number of public conveniences provided for white people, e.g. on railway trains there would be 2 or 3 lavatories for Europeans as against one for Asiatics.

On Railways, service to Indians by Natives is not so prompt as to Europeans. In one such instance, I had an occasion, during my travel through Tanganyika, to advocate the case of non-Europeans, for, strictly speaking, I fought not on personal grounds so much as on a higher plane of privileges and rights for Asiatics.

I reproduce here below, for the readers, a letter in point, received from the Traffic Manager, the highest head of Tanganyika Railways and Ports Services dated 5th September 1936 :—

Dear Sir,

My attention has been drawn to the complaint made by you in the complaint book of the Dining Car of the Mail train from Tabora, recently. In the first place, I must express regret for any inconvenience caused to you. My inquiries show that the Dining Car Manager was ill on that particular journey and his duties were taken over by the European Conductor.

Also on that occasion, the car was extensively patronised for meals and this coupled with the fact that the Manager was ill, disorganised somewhat the usual smooth running of matters in connection with service. Delays occurred, but I can assure you that such delays were in no way exhibitious of discriminatory treatment,

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this latter being definitely frowned upon by the Administration.

However, the African Stewards and others have again been impressed with the necessity for civility etc., and I feel sure, that should you travel again, on this system, you will not experience such inconvenience, for which, I again tender regrets.

Yours faithfully,

.....  
The letter speaks for itself ; it calls for no comment ; only I would ask the readers in all fairness, if any head of railway administration in India would write a letter in that style, in that strain, in that beautiful spirit of responsibility couched in the self-same terms as are employed in the above letter.

There are frank admissions and regrets twice expressed, once at the outset and next at the end. Here is certainly a lesson for Railway and other administrations in India, which are drunk with the potion of power and exist more for themselves than for those whom they serve.

As regards the services, hitherto Indians, in the lower ranks were accorded the usual privileges but since the last five years or so, Government are gradually withdrawing these. This change of policy affects Indian employees in Post, Telegraphs, Railways, Banks and general administration departments ; even replacement of Indians is in contemplation. The privileges of pension and provident fund, leave, passage home and free medical treatment are being denied to lower servicemen. Mercantile bodies however are far more conciliatory in their attitude towards Indians.

'Another striking feature of the services in East 'Africa is that Indians are branded as clerks however senior. competent and well-paid they may be. 'A treasury official would be designated as "Treasury Clerk", and a police official of D. S. P.'s pay, grade and ability would be called "Senior Sub-Inspector", because he is not white.

Segregation all round, must naturally affect hospitals

as well. In Uganda protectorate, where conditions are more favourable than in the adjoining white colony, separate wards have been allowed to be created in Government hospitals. Seth Nanji Kalidas M. B. E., the great Indian Capitalist, recently gave 10,000 shillings to create an Asiatic ward in Kampala Government hospital. As against this, one Khoja philanthropist in Dar-es-Salaam preferred to create a separate hospital for Asiatics in opposition to a separate Asiatic ward built in Government general hospital. There is a growing number of people who view with disfavour and rightly so, any acts which, instead of eliminating, go to establish the detested principle of segregation.

To be fair to the white, inspite of the accursed segregation and color prejudice, civility and courtesy are in general, ungrudgingly shown to Indians. It would not be out of place to cite an instance here in this connection. On Kenya railways, I once had to travel for a short distance by a goods train with an Indian Sikh guard, be it remembered that East African railways are manned and staffed almost entirely by Indians—Sikhs, Gujraties and Punjabi Hindus. A minor accident took place on the way, by shunting on the side way. The European engineer chanced to be nearby on the trolley. The Indian guard had damaged the dead side of the line. I had expected this European engineer to lose his temper and run down the guard who was an Indian, but instead, he was very polite and addressed him smilingly saying, "I see, you are in trouble today, what exactly has happened and so on".

The Sikhs in railway service there had of late become vocal and assertive and organised once a strike, but Gujraties playing weaker, would not join. I was told by some Indian Railway men that Indian communalism had travelled to Africa where communal virus was being injected in them, by their rulers who found in their interests, to divide Gujraties from Sikhs, Moslems from the latter and so on reminding them now and again of recent happenings in India.

Bearing all this segregation and color prejudice in mind, the most natural question uppermost in the minds of thinking people would be, why the white are averse to Indians. The fundamental consideration of course, is, that Indians have no *status quo* at home, where they are a subject race, but their failure to conform to European style and standard is to a very large extent responsible for discriminatory treatment meted out to them in colonies where most of the white people fresh from England having little or no knowledge of the culture of Indians, are settled. "Do as Romans do" is the one thing essential for Indians living abroad, to follow.

Our Sind work Merchants although half-educated go about tip-top and keep to the style in Africa as compared to their Gujrati brethren who have largely proved a failure in this respect.

Most of the rich Indians living niggardly lives and underselling their wares in African colonies are really responsible for undesirable attitude of white people towards them. In Gamiani bazaar, a suburb of Tanga, in Tanganyika, I was shown a prosperous Kathiawari tradesman, a food provision dealer, commanding 60,000 shillings or about rupees forty thousand worth turnover of sale, living like a wretched beggar and conducting his business in old rotten manner. Such a man ought to be a living pride of Indian community there, enhancing the prestige of their nationals. Without in the least offending my Gujrati and Sikh friends and meaning in every respect, well to them, I offer this bit of criticism to say that most of Gujrati and Sikh people who preponderate Indian population in African colonies, are misfits in decent society there. They have in part spoiled the case of their nationals as a community. In Kisumu European bazaar in Kenya colony, I found to my surprise, some one of the Gujrati shop owners adjoining English chemists coming out barefooted and with dhoti on, and spitting red spit of betel leaf chewing outside on the covered passage, a public thoroughfare whence Europeans were passing. These are some of the Indian



ways revolting to the European mind. Nobody need controvert my saying that we must behave differently in white colonies where English law is administered and where European institutions, ideas and usages are in vogue. In India of course, we can do what we like. Things however are improving with better type of Indians going to these colonies, nowadays. While I was there, four well known tennis players having been invited, were on their visit to East Africa. Europeans there did not know if Indians could play good tennis but their eyes were opened, when they were beaten hollow by Indian players all round. Mr. Thomas, on behalf of European Tennis players paid a high tribute to the quality of tennis which had been exhibited in Nairobi and Nakuru in Kenya. "It had afforded him," he stated, "a fresh idea of how tennis really should be played".

If therefore, Indians conform to European style, speak good English with correct pronunciation, are self-respecting and assertive for their rights, are plucky and pushing, as a matter of necessity which is a virtue, even while they are a subject people at home they are bound to command respect and attention, which they richly deserve, in these white colonies.





H. H. AGA KHAN HIGH SCHOOL. (MOMBASA, KENYA).

## 16. EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA.

The four East African territories, detached as they are from one another and each differently situated from the other, are still in course of development and as such have a few schools and those for Asiatics and Europeans separately. There is not a single college found there either for Asiatics or for Europeans, while, not a single high school exists on the Island of Zanzibar. There is one striking feature of the educational system in Kenya colony and that is the levy of education tax. Asiatic education tax, 20 shillings per annum, is payable by all males of Asiatic origin, of 18 years or over. If it is not paid before 1st May each year, it is automatically doubled. The minimum education tax for Europeans is 30 shillings per head per year.

Primary education is admittedly more advanced there than in India. The Indian community in Mombasa has the advantage of a nice nursery school on Montessori lines, started through the initiative of Seth Nanji Kalidas the well known Indian capitalist. His Highness Aga Khan's High School at Mombasa, housed in a big building well-equipped and well attended Institution, is really the pride of that town.

There are two girls' schools there but the Government Indian Girls High School is very largely patronised. The Colonial Government have of late begun to spend a little liberally on Indian education. The only thing Indians in East Africa disdained, is the recommendation of Sir Allan Pim in his recent report by which a sort of split in the existing educational system is proposed by putting European education under the control of Colonial Secretary and Indian education in charge of the Under-Secretary for Native affairs.

In Nairobi besides Government Boys' and girls' schools for Indians, there is a Cutchi-Gujrati Middle school started by private enterprise. “3

In the absence of any University in East Africa the various high schools in Mombasa, Nairobi, Kampala and Dar-es-Salaam, are preparing pupils for Senior Cambridge and London Matriculation examinations.

In Kampala, the commercial and native capital of Uganda, Natives have a big collegiate institution known as "Makerere" the nucleus University of Black East Africa, which is a brave adventure in education now making a steady progress. The Christian missionaries have been there since the middle of seventies of the last century and to them the Institution owes its undoubted progress.

In Dar-es-Salaam, apart from the Government Indian Central High School, Hindu Mandal and Social Service League are running a middle school for their own. Their efforts in training boys in physical culture are well appreciated.

At Mwanza in Tanganyika, the small Indian Community settled there, have subscribed among themselves, 40,000 shillings and have put up a fine and spacious school building overlooking the world-famed Lake Victoria.

At Zanzibar, educational starvation of the two principal communities of Indians and Arabs, is deplorable. The two sections of Khojas Ismailia and Itnashari, as also the strong community of Parsis, are running their own middle schools, but there is not a single high school on the Island. The Government's is "A dog in the Manger" policy. Neither do they subsidise or aid by a suitable grant, local communal enterprise nor do they themselves initiate or found a full-fledged high school to suit the demands of Asiatics living on the Island. The general feeling there, was, that mere manufacturing of clerks by imparting lower grade secondary education, will not make people either decent or law-abiding citizens.

There is in Zanzibar, what is called "Zanzibar Advisory Council on Education". Recently the Government appointed a sub-committee from amongst the members of the said council, to report on grants-in-aid as also



Teaching Staff of Indian Central School  
Mwanza. (T. T.)



on re-organization of Indian education. The complaint of the Islanders is that the public were never informed about setting up of this sub-committee, which again was drawn from the advisory council, members whereof had been nominated without consultation of the public concerned. Besides, the said sub-committee did not even invite public views; instead, they sat to judge the educational needs of the communities in their secluded wisdom and frame a report bolting the doors of high school education against the present and future generations of Indians in particular.

At Dar-es-Salaam, I could see, that the head of Educational department of Tanganyika territory, designated, as in the West, as "Superintendent of Education", was often present at High School teachers' periodical meetings, giving consultation in a free and homely manner, to teachers in regard to curriculum, latest ideas of education and teachers' difficulties if any. Here is again a lesson for the heads of our Educational departments in India.

In Portuguese East Africa, in 3 out of 4 towns visited by me, I came across art schools wherein instructions in cane knitting, carpentry, smithy, drawing and painting were given to youngsters. It appeared to me, that the Portuguese government were very keen on vocational education.



## 17. FLORA & FAUNA IN EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA.

*FLORA*—Many interesting types of vegetation are found in East and South Africa. Soil and weather variations are amazing indeed in this typically tropical continent particularly south of Equator. This is why the Flora and Fauna have something very peculiar and attractive about them which is usually missed in other tropical regions. The wild life both of plant and animal kingdoms available there is featurable and ornamental.

*Acacia Arabica* (Babul trees) all over the land are a curious sight with flat tops looking like roofs and so very symmetrical in form. They are certainly more beautiful to look at, than our Indian Babul trees.

*Eucalyptus* with its four common varieties (1) *Robusta*, (2) *Solingna*, (3) *Rostratra* and (4) *Maculata*, and Cedar are common sights. One can see regular forests of these above 5000 feet. *Eucalyptus* is used for fuel and its leaves for oil expression. Palms, Bunyans and *Jacoranda* are also found in large abundance on lower altitudes. Uganda Flame tree (*Spathodia Nilotica*) growing wild near the source of River Nile in Uganda, is a big tree like Bunyan with flowers, tulip like red and showing like *Cordia*. It is a common sight there and has been recently introduced in Bombay and other places of India. *Afu* "*Millingtonia Hortensis*" or cork tree from Zanzibar called Indian cork with white scented flowers, is another common growth there. It is amusing to note that *Ficus Religiosa* (Peepul) is nowhere to be found there. Imitation Bamboo, soft variety, grows there all round. Never have I seen in India, anywhere crotons of all types and shades growing so profusely and to such a height as on the Island of Mombasa. *Euphorbia Splendens* or what is popularly known there, as Christ's thorn with tiny red flowers being awfully common, serves as a hedge

round greens or lawns in public squares in Kenya and Uganda where it grows luxuriantly. Nothing was so attractive as big and fleshy red flowers of Hibiscus quite unlike those in India. No private garden was lacking in purple Alamanda which white people loved to keep.

Preserved forests in East Africa are very interesting. One always sees planted systematic long patches or rectangular blocks of trees with intersecting roads in between.

In Transval, I came across the most notable type of tree "Baobab" (*Adansonia Digitata*) which grows to huge dimensions, often having a trunk measuring 20 feet in diameter. The pulp surrounding the seed of this tree is pleasantly acid in flavor and is used in soups and in a drink by many of the natives. The seed is also used as a food specially by mainland women resident in Zanzibar in East Africa. It is commonly known as the tartaric acid tree owing to the presence of tartaric acid and tartrate in the pulp of its fruit.

There are forests of Euphorbiaceous tree, which from a distance, give a characteristic grey colour to the mountain side; other species of Euphorbia also constitute a characteristic feature of the general scenery. In the neighbourhood of Messina, the Union Government of the South, has a large nature Reserve in which both Fauna and Flora are protected. This reserve contains large forests of Baobab.

FAUNA—In Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika there are great many lions and leopards, though not in Zanzibar. Hunters from other countries rush to Serengeti plains in Tanganyika for hunting African lions.

About 118 miles from Nairobi, in Southern Game Reserve, one can see rhinos, ostriches and the giraffe. Giraffe is a tall, stately and beautifully spotted skinned animal. A motor car may be driven right under the very neck of a huge Giraffe. There is hardly any horse throughout East Africa. Zebras are found in hundreds.

In Kenya and Uganda as all over Africa, elephants are so numerous that their number and destructive acti-

vities are controlled by hunters employed by the Government for the purpose.

In one district of Kenya, I could not make out a large herd of Elephants, mistaking it for a cow herd, at a distance. I could not believe my eyes until I saw them at close quarters. Elephant hunt is well known throughout Africa. There were stories current to say that Kenya elephants were particularly very keen on avenging their wrongs. Lakes Nakuru and Elementeita in Kenya are all pink and white with flamingoes. Vast swarms of these red-breasted lake-birds comparatively rarities in India, are a great and enjoyable sight in East Africa. The excreta of these birds (used as a valuable manure) emits a kind of most pungent smell, which makes people uneasy even at a distance.

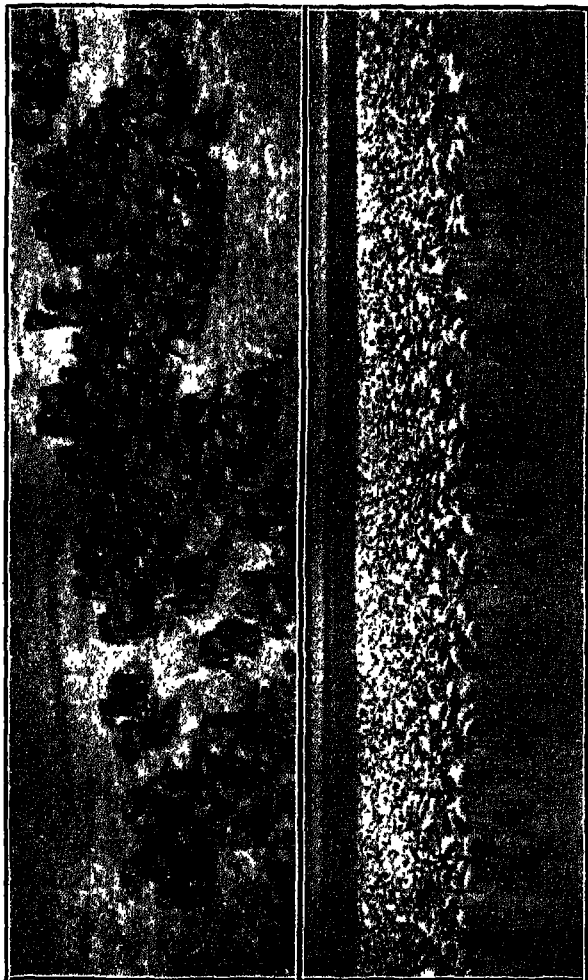
Hippo (Hippopotamus) is another extraordinary-looking and typically tropical animal of Africa, hiding its huge bulk in the cool waters of lakes and every now and then opening its huge mouth wide just to show how he can eat some one up. It feeds on grass, fish and birds, and by nightfall it comes out of water, on the land, attacking man if he is alone and going back into the waters, early by dawn. It is thus an amphibious animal. No boats can ply on the lakes because of these hippos.

The country of Uganda particularly where the vertebrate fauna is concerned, offers a marvellous field of research to the student of Zoology.

Bongo and wild buffaloes could also be seen in Uganda and Belgian Congo. Kudu and Oryz, the rarest of the African antelope, are met with in endless procession.

Colobus a type of monkey having a close resemblance to an old human head of 70 or 80 years, is another curious animal found in Uganda.

Lizards of various sizes and shapes, some of startling coloration, others of extreme rarity, are found in almost every tract in East Africa though not on highest altitudes. Outstanding, on account of size and abundance, is the "Nile Monitor" or water lizard which sometimes reaches a length of 6 feet. Chameleon *Johnstoni* is a curious



1. A large herd of Elephants in Kenya.
2. A vast swarm of Flamingoes on lake Nakuru in Kenya.



# TROPICAL ANIMALS OF AFRICA.

1. Giraffe. 2. Young Colobus Monkey. 3. Ankole Cattle (Uganda).  
 4. Chameleon Johnstoni - a curious denizen of Western  
 Kigezi. (Uganda). 5. Zebra. 6. Hippopotamus.

denizen of West Kigezi in Uganda. It is evidently named after one Johnston. Being a typical chameleon, its skin changes colour according as the colour of surface it sits on. It is regarded as queer because of its bird-like beak.

In Transval, Krugar national park running in miles offers a great treat of wild life consisting of the lion, the wild boar, the antelope, the hippo and the rhino, beside the trio of elephant, zebra and giraffe.

## 18. NATIVE LIFE IN EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA.

Since the very earliest times, the colorful native life of Africa, has attracted the attention of students of anthropology as also of travellers, but whereas, in the past, the world was entirely dependent on a handful of lecturers and writers for the knowledge of Bantu races of this continent, modern travel conditions have made it possible for any traveller to make personal contact with these interesting people whose strange tribal customs and beliefs have been handed down from posterity to posterity and have formed an instructive subject of study for people, all the world over.

After what I have seen and studied of African "Blacks" one thing has confused me the most and that is, inspite of the fact that the country is mostly mountainous, climate is cool, bracing and salubrious in every way except in a few tracts, water available is sweet and digestive, fruit is abundant and cheap everywhere, inspite of lovely surroundings and general picturesqueness of the country, why and how is it that the aborigines are so hopelessly dark in color, ugly and ill-featured. Do environments. climate and food not affect the physical being of these people? If not, is it the culture of a people that matters, in that respect, but again, do we not hear of the contention that culture itself is determined and shaped very largely by natural environment?

I met on African waters, while returning from the South, several learned men and women, among whom, was one Dr. Nyassen the Anthropologist of Holland and we had together many a useful discussion on the subject but I did not feel convinced. Losing myself in the tangle of thought, I leave it to my learned friends all over, to throw more light on the subject.

*NATIVES OF THE EAST*—Insipite of all we

read and hear about the relentless advance of civilisation, there are still some phases of semi-barbarities in evidence in certain parts of Africa. For instance, a good deal of semi-nakedness could be seen among tribes like Kavirando in East Africa.

In appearance, face and form, natives look all alike. Heads of both sexes are closely cropped and the little hair left are ring-shaped. It is from breasts only one can make out man from woman. Formerly the women used ear-stretchers of wood and ivory looking uglier and more deformed, but these things are disappearing bit by bit.

In Kavirando tract, I saw rural natives wearing skins and caps of hairy skin. In several places I happened to see their queer form of greeting. They give hand in hand, press thumb, palm and wrist and finally kiss the hand. This mode of greeting is current among elderly people particularly in rural areas. Natives as a rule wear long white robes (overalls) and "Fez" which is their original dress—but now under Christian influence, even the poorest though going bare-footed, have shorts and old tattered felt or straw hats on. They are either moslem or christian by religion and even while they are christians their mode of dress is moslem.

I once moved one native boy, a cook, a very jolly fellow, to go out with me to India. I was serious in my proposal. Presently he asked me in all earnestness Bana Kooba (Big Master), are there in India people like me?" I replied in the affirmative, saying there are some here and there and we call them "Sheedies". "Have those people, a face like me, ringed hair, exactly the same I have?" He asked again, "If not, if I die there, who would bury me?" I was indeed greatly amused by this piece of conversation. Native women will be seen carrying their children tied to their backs like the Japanese.

Christian missions train natives and convert them. These missions have formed, in many places, neat hut colonies and have started tailor shops and sundry shop keeping. Unfortunately they are being taught that Indians



are their enemies and as such, will not allow them to get civilised, rise and flourish thus seeking to undermine their interests.

Natives in Kenya are homeless, landless and kicked up like football, here and there. They have to work to earn by odd menial jobs to pay one sterling, as hut tax per head per year.

There are certain narrow strips of land in-between white or Indian Settlers' estates called, Native Reservations, where they can farm, grow maize and vegetables only and no other economical crops. They are thus virtually prisoners. All natives, boys, workmen, and all have got to be registered and for that purpose, Government Native Registration department has been set up.

The native registration ordinance provides for all adult male natives to be registered and to carry a form of identification pass officially known as a "Native Registration Certificate" or "Kipandi". Before engaging an adult male native, the employer should demand of him, his registration certificate and examine it. It is illegal to employ any person as a domestic servant unless he is in possession of a pocket register which has got to be sent to the Registrar of Domestic Servants, together with one shilling registration fee of engagement. Failure to do this, renders the employer liable to a prosecution and on conviction to a fine of 100 shillings.

Every registered native, shall before leaving the service of an employer request the latter, to endorse his discharge, on his certificate and in the event of the employer refusing or omitting to do so, he shall forthwith report to the nearest Registration Officer.

In and around townships, natives must carry hurricane lanterns in hand after 8 P. M. if they go out anywhere, or else they would straightaway be treated as vagabonds or thieves and arrested on the spot.

No lotteries drawn by Europeans or Asiatics, could be sold to natives. The idea is that if they have money in hand, they would squander all there and then, drink excessively and be in riotous mood.

However honest these natives may be, they won't consider it wrong, perhaps according to their own moral code to steal and eat away food stuffs in the kitchen. The most honest cooks would eat away things whenever they feel tempted to, in the midst of cooking, without any the least scruple.

Their unity among themselves is simply remarkable; they can make common cause in no time if they choose to. If these natives in common with South African tribesmen had been civilised enough to have strong common sense, with their wonderful characteristic of cohesion which they are reported to have among themselves, they would really work wonders.

The British Government are weakening them by making them live to their earning standard; under civilising influences, they are fast developing luxurious habits which in turn tend to serve as an urge to earn and to that extent they are developing a sense of responsibility.

Natives in Uganda Protectorate as compared to their Kenya brethren are far richer and more independent. Being directly under their own chiefs they are landed people and besides raising any commercial crops like cotton, wheat and sugarcane unlike in Kenya, they enjoy many other privileges. There are a number of chiefs under British protection owning large acreages and all that land they cultivate un-hampered as against Kenya natives who have narrow strips of land called "Native Reserves" on highlands in between white settlers' areas besides a whole native reservation area near Kakamega, where they are allowed to grow maize only.

Banana is the general staple food of natives particularly of Uganda Natives and that fruit is widely grown by them therefore.

There are a number of tribes found in Uganda. They are great believers in charms. Their women folk dress in a quaint fashion; breasts are half exposed while the body below abdomen is thickly clothed so much so that they

appear to have put their lower half of the body in a gunny bag as it were.

The natives of Tanganyika, through the close contact with civilised people, have just begun to cover their bodies particularly women folk who now cover the body just above their breasts with black flowing cloth, leaving the shoulders bare.

Before the advent of Arabs on the Island of Zanzibar, the aborigines were so barbaric that for one silver coin found on the person of a traveller, they killed the man outright, cut his body into pieces and concealed them in such a way that it became well nigh impossible to trace the murdered man. The Arabs civilised them and freely married their women and we have thus a large section of mixed people on the island. Natives in Zanzibar have the same *status quo* as Indians and Arabs and on that account they are freer, richer and more independent than elsewhere.

#### DIFFERENT TRIBES

Here are some of the outstanding *names of Native tribes* in East Africa, which sound very queer :—

##### 1. SWAHILI PEOPLE

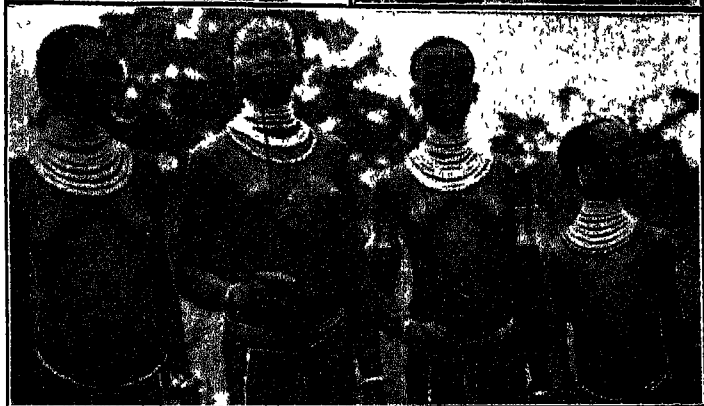
These are found in Kenya, outer strips of East Coast and Zanzibar. In the latter place due to early Arab influences, Swahili natives are more refined. The Swahili language spoken on the Island, has a literary touch like our Lucknow Urdu in India, which though bombastic, is refined and so very respectful.

##### 2. KAVIRANDO TRIBE

These people are found in Kenya particularly round about Kakamega. A good deal of nakedness is seen amongst them, particularly in the rural areas. These semi-naked men and women are, as a rule, not permitted to go about in townships.

##### 3. KIKOOYU

The warlike race found on the border line of Kenya and Uganda. They



1. 2. 3. —Kavirando & other Semi-naked tribeswomen.

4. Acholi girls, (Uganda).



# NATIVE DANCES AND ORCHESTRA

1. Saffers Orchestra—Portuguese East Africa. 2. Pigmy Dance—S. W. Uganda. 3. Masai Semi-naked Ballet. 4. Goma Dance of Swahilies.

were once a very brave people. Their language is slightly different from Swahili.

4. JALVO TRIBE
5. KISI
6. MASAI      These people are found in Tanganyika. One of the barbaric custom of eating flesh of dead bodies still persists amongst them.
7. MARAGORI
8. Acholi people in the Northern province of Uganda are very good dancers. Their nakedness, dancing and wearing of animal skins on special occasions are points of interest for travellers.
9. Banyoro people in Uganda in their bark cloth dress, are also very interesting folk. They pay homage to their "Mukuma" periodically in a ceremonial way.
10. Karamojong are very gay people.
11. BAGANDA
12. MAGANDA      } These are the chief tribes of Uganda.
13. Kaffirs of Portuguese East Africa are more intelligent than their native brethren in British East Africa.

*THE DANCE INSTITUTIONS* of natives are well known particularly the famous Goma dance of Swahilies which is largely patronised and watched with keen interest by Europeans. The Pigmy dance in South West Uganda is also admired by tourists. Semi-naked ballets of Masai people are equally popular in Tanganyika. The native orchestra of Kaffirs in Portuguese territory consisting of beating the drums wildly and dancing in the air with crude gestures is highly amusing.

Natives are best imitating creatures, and on Sundays, on the Island of Mombasa, when they dress themselves as pilots, admirals, commanders, colonels and generals, and sally forth in a grand procession playing European music, in a mock march, it appears as if they are just out to drive the Britishers out of their country.

**NATIVE LANG.** African native tongues are derived from out of the stock of Bantu languages.

Swahili the principal East African language, widely spoken and understood in all the four eastern territories with slight variations, is regarded as Lingua Franca of East Africa. Kokooyu in the interior of Kenya and Bagandi in Uganda are slightly different from Swahili with which, however, one can make himself understood anywhere in those territories.

South African languages differ from those of East Africa much in the same way as North Indian languages differ from those of South India.

The "Swahili" spoken on Zanzibar Island is literary Swahili. This is because the early Arab conquest influenced their local culture.

Swahili is learnt by every white or colored person. Europeans not knowing Hindustani well in India can learn to speak fluent Swahili in no time. Even our Indian ladies and children there, could speak this language with ease and fluency.

There is practically no grammar in Swahili, all words whereof end in vowel sounds. Due to Persian and Arabic influences, the words like the following for instance have become current in Swahili. "Hal", "Kareeboo" (from Kareeb=near) "Sandooku" (Box), "Bakshishi" (Tip or gift), "Zaidi"=much (from persian word Ziyadah), "Dareesha" (from Daree=window) "Goduru-Bedding", "Ahsantee"=Thanks (from Arabic word Ahsan), "Adaboo=manners" (from Adab), "Tayaree"=ready (from Tayaar), "Meza"=Table, "Safeesha"=Cleanse (from saaf=clean), "Fikree"=care (from Fikar), "Safari"=travelling (from Arabic word, safar); the latter has become current in official correspondence there, in the same way as the Hindustani words like "Bandobast" and "Zulum" are current in the official language in India.

Similarly the words current in Swahili like "Dawa"=medicine, "Mana"=meaning, "Kabati"=almirah, "Baba"=father, "Bibi"=wife, "Bana"=husband or

master are all of Arabic origin. Owing to the influence of English language, the following words have become current in Swahili —

“Officee” for office, “Mamma” for mother, “Shirtee” for shirt, “Bukoo” for book, “Dressee” for dress, “Inglesee” for English and “Glasse” for glass.

“Sa” means watch or clock and “Sa Gapee” means “What is the time?” “Mimi Kusha Kula Nazi Moja,” means “I did eat (or ate) cocoanut one.” On my way to Africa, Indian friends on the boat asked me jocularly saying, “You are talking of Nazis of Germany. Do you know what Nazi means in Swahili? It means a cocoanut.”

“Jumba Yako wapi?” means “House your where” or “where is your house?” “Kusha Koenda Wapi Wevey” means “went where you” or “where did you go?” This gives the reader some idea of the grammar and syntax of Swahili language.

A funny story was given to me by some Indian friends who had lived in Africa for long. An Indian, a new arrival, who had just picked up a little Swahili, asked a native boy, to put his bedding out to dry in the sun. He told the boy, “Ona” i.e. look here; the bedding was very dirty, he was ill for some time and he directed the boy with a wave of his arm to put it out in the hot. “Moto” in Swahili means hot and it also means fire. “Teea goduru dani moto”, was the master’s order, meaning “Put the bedding in the hot”. The boy went and put in the fire and burnt it away. He thought the master was ill, as he said, and the bedding was dirty and he wanted to get rid of it.

Lastly the reader would like to have an idea of numericals in Swahili.

Moja, Beeli, Tatoo, Ene, Tano, Seeta, Saba, Nane, Teesa, Koomi, Koomina moja and so on, meaning one two, three right upto eleven.

The language of Kaffirs or Niggars of Portuguese East Africa is radically different from East African languages. Most of the Kaffirs have picked up English. In South Africa, natives (servants, motor drivers and others) speak



fairly good English and have been trained to be very decent, most of them.

### NATIVE TRIBES OF SOUTH AFRICA.

The mode of living of Southern tribes differs very much from that of Eastern tribes. The former live in circular type of huts, very much different from those of Eastern tribal style.

1. Maneka tribe is found in Portuguese territory and on borders of Southern Rhodesia in places like Umtali.

2. Mashona in Mashonaland, in and around Salisbury.

3. Metabuli in Metabull and in Southern Rhodesia around Bulwayo.

4. Bechauna in Bechaunaland between Rhodesia and Transval.

5. Zulus in Zululand near about Natal. Of these and many more tribes Zulus are a well known people. Theirs is the principal tribe in the South represented by Europeans in South African Union parliament. They live in a separate slice of land called Zululand and in all vital matters however, they are governed by Colonial office in London. These people are getting to be progressive, some of them being lawyers and doctors. Theirs is a very intelligent race but they are very hard and dangerous to deal with. They profess no religion and have not responded much to mission activities. They are disarmed completely. To Indians or Asiatics in general, they are well-disposed but they are definitely hostile to white people whom they detest. Zulus as a rule; are tenacious and strong willed people and once they were a race of warriors. A story is told of Charka the famous king of Zulus, in olden times, whose blood thirstiness and cruelty caused the deaths of thousands of his own subjects. During the early part of his reign, one of his generals broke away from the Zulu nation and marched northwards with his people. Charka sent his 30,000 picked soldiers to force the rebels to return. The fugitives were overtaken and perhaps no fiercer fight ever before took



A typical native hut in the South.



1. A woman of Nubian tribe. 2. A Chief of Zulus.

place in the native blood-stained annals of South Africa. The King's men did all they could and now there was nothing left, but to return to their master with the news that they had failed. Wearily, they made their way back to Zululand, knowing well the fate awaiting them. Charka's iron rule permitted no failure and the penalty, of course, was death. "Dogs and sons of dogs", the king thundered. "You come back to tell me that you have been beaten in fight and still live. To the Underworld, you shall all go, to join the spirits of your ancestors. I shall, however, show you mercy, for, you were once brave. You shall die a man's death and not be speared like worn-out oxen. I have spoken". The leader of the band condemned to death, addressing the King said, "We have heard the Calf of the Black Elephant" and he led his men away to prepare for death. From the crest of a hill suddenly breaking to sheer precipice of rock 500 feet from the edge to the plain below, these men were ordered to let themselves fall and be smashed to pieces. Not a man of them, was under six feet high, all trained to war since boyhood, active, muscular and powerful; every one of them stepped up the slope with a haughty pride as if he was going into action; their king had given them the right to die like men and like men they died.

6. The women folk of Nubian tribe are interesting to look at, for their fascinating mode of hair-dressing. Unlike their East African sisters, they grow hair on the head profusely, which they twist like ropes. My first impression was, that soft twisted ropes were gummed or glued on to their heads. This style of allowing their twisted rope-like hair to dangle on the ears on both sides, seems very ornamental and is looked upon as a mark of beauty among the Nubian tribe.

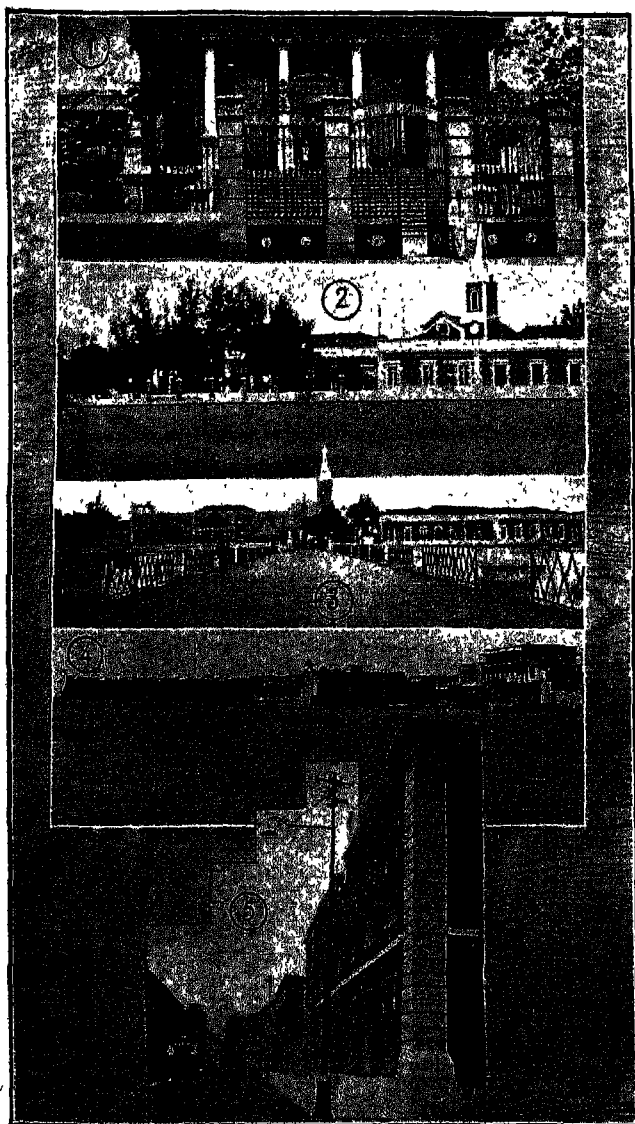
7. The Bavenda tribe (in Northern Transval) is known for their un-shakeable belief in spirits of their departed chiefs. The members of this proud tribe worship the lion and the elephant.

8. Bushmen—the tribe of typical pigmies, is now almost extinct. I was lucky however to see these typical

barbarians at the great Empire Exhibition at Johannesburg in a special village camp where they were shown to visiting public, as wearing animal skins, otherwise going almost naked, sitting, eating and generally behaving like monkeys.

9. The Mamabolo tribe, located 20 miles east of Pietersburg in Transval, worship the wild boar and no greater compliment can be paid to a Mamabolo tribesman than to call him a "Wild Boar". Another section of this tribe governed by a Chieftainess, the mysterious rain-maker Queen Majaji, worship an antelope called Impala.





Mozambique (Portuguese East Africa).

1. The Hospital. 2. Governor's Palace. 3. View of the town from the Port. 4. The Old Portuguese Fort. 5. Art School.

## 19. LIFE IN PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

(a) *PORT AMELIA, MOZAMBIQUE & BEIRA*—Port Amelia is a small mofussil port in portuguese territory where about 80 Germans and 50 Indians (Kutchi memons, Khojas and Gujrati Hindus) live, pursuing farming and shopkeeping. There is a good hospital overlooking the sea. Portuguese wines being duty free and cheap are freely offered to every one. Mozambique is a lovely little island and a fairly decent port. The layout of Portuguese towns though distinct, is usually picturesque and neat-looking. Here there are a couple of Sindhi merchants' shops and a small number of Parsis both very much respected by Portuguese, as they have shown themselves up as more independent and well-behaved than other people of India, particularly moslems and Gujrati Hindus of whom the Portuguese had rather a poor opinion.

Here the old Portuguese fort over 300 years old overlooking the sea is worth while a visit. Capital punishment being non-existent in Portugal, prisoners serving 30 years and longer sentences including white criminals from Lisbon are rotting here in this fort where police and military officials do also reside with families.

Portuguese government have not made any satisfactory arrangements for town water supply. In 3 out of 4 towns visited by me, every house had a cemented tank for storage of rain water. During bad seasons, due to shortage of rain, serious trouble about drinking water had arisen in the past when, I was told, casks of water were sold for money at two annas each, from the central town storage tank. All stone houses there, are plastered with coloured lime, red, blue, and yellow and every year, all house-owners have to color-wash or renew paints of the exterior of their buildings, for failure whereof, they are fined by the town authorities. From the public hygienic point of view, such a practice was pronounced to be wholesome.

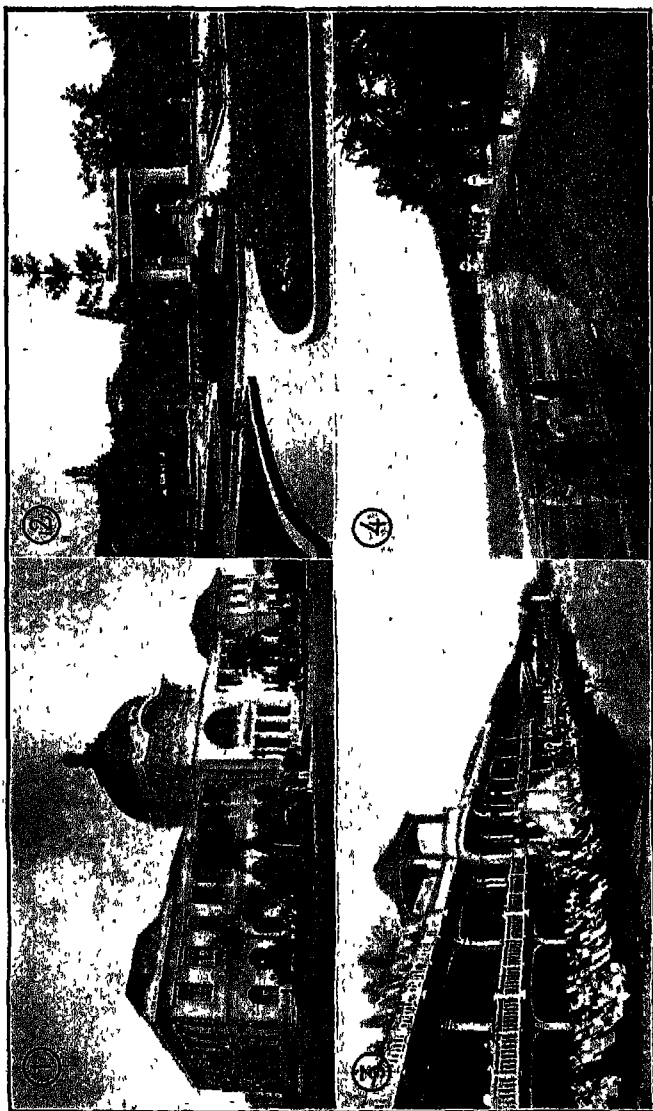


The town of Beira is managed by a Portuguese company ; the period of 50 year-lease, they said would now be over, before long, when the Portuguese government would assume control of the town. The town with a population of 4 to 5 thousands is close to the port which serves Northern and Southern Rhodesia and British Nyasaland as well. There are a few cemented roads with American "Robots" to guide the vehicular traffic. Kathiawari Hindus, there are plenty, engaged in trade. A well-known Sindhi firm "Pohumall Brothers" with their house property, are a flourishing concern in Beira. There is a big Indo-Portuguese club in the town, with a membership of 90 strong, consisting of Sindhis, Indian Goans and Portuguese.

Portuguese were spoken of as fond of wine and women ; one of their racial characteristics is their noisy manner of talk. Any two persons talking business in earnestness, would appear like quarrelling or exchanging hot words with each other. The general impression of travellers is that they are not very efficient or expeditious as a rule, in business.

Portuguese government, for want of funds, are very slow in developing their colonies. I heard several foreigners remarking that the Portuguese have more territory in Africa than they know what to do with. And that is believed on all hands, to be very true.

(b) *LOURENCO MARQUES—(LISBON OF AFRICA)*—Here the visitor finds himself or herself to be in another world. Between colorful British East Africa on one side and South African Territories where the atmosphere is at once European continental or American, on the other side, one has to face a sudden change in the "Lisbon of Africa". The Portuguese, no matter whatever uncharitable has been said about them, are undeniably the most hospitable people. One can revel in open air cafes on band squares in Lourenco Marques. There is excellent bathing provided, on modern lines, on the world-famed Polana beach and one need not be afraid of sea-breakers as the town is situate on the Bay



LOURENÇO MARQUES. (Portuguese East Africa).

1. Railway offices and station. 2. Zoological Gardens. 4. Beach Promenade.
3. World-famed Polana Beach.



of Delagoa and not on the open sea-front. The hotels in the town are up-to-date; a couple of main roads are cement floored fitted up with Robots (or automatic traffic directors). The Polana beach hotel run by a rich South African Jew is a grand sight.

A number of residential cottages alongside the said beach are built by the town municipality. Sites are also allotted for pitching tents under groves and avenues on the beach. Being regarded as a famous health resort, white people from South Africa crowd together for a change.

There were anxious queries from white educated Portuguese men in Goan Institutes and Clubs, everywhere I went, "Has the situation eased in India? Are reforms acceptable to you? What is the latest from India?"

One thing may be noted with interest about the Portuguese currency which is hopeless. There are currency notes of our former one rupee note size, even for 5 and 10 cents equivalent to half and one anna. Euscudo the Portuguese unit in paper is equal to two annas and three pies in Indian Money. As against this, in Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, the currency unit is the East African shilling (equivalent to English shilling) divided into 100 cents. Silver coins are issued to the value of one shilling and 50 cents, bronze coins to the value of 10, 5 and 1 cent while the currency notes circulate in various denominations from 5 to 10,000 shillings. Recently, however, the Portuguese government have coined silver shillings of the type of the South African shilling, to the value of 5 Eucudos or ten annas.

Formerly the Portuguese were, as a rule, very much averse to English culture and language. A story was current there by which an English visitor having got off his boat at Beira wanted to go to Post Office. He was misguided by 2 or 3 Portuguese on the streets by indifferently pointing out the way to him in one or the other direction, till at last, an Indian came to his rescue and guided him right to the Post Office. The outlook of the

Portuguese has however, changed for the better, in this direction. A very good law in force in Portuguese colonies as well as in their mother country existed and that is, complete prohibition of sale of useful cows in milk.

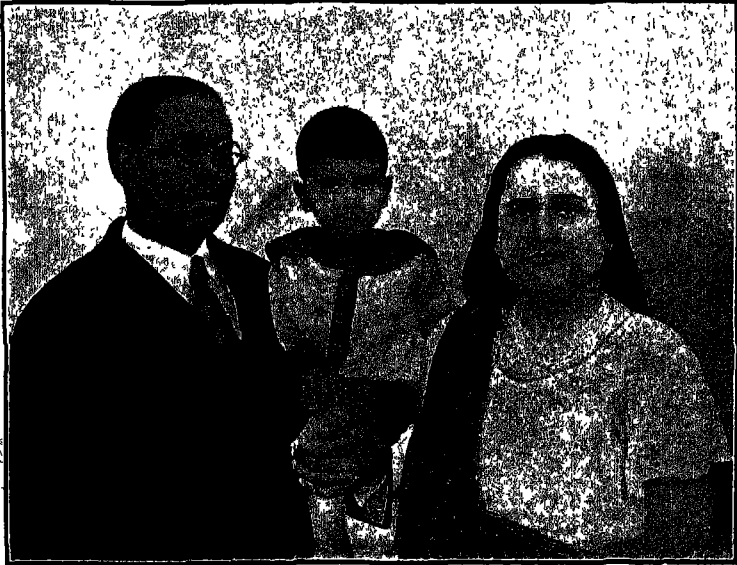
(c) *RACIAL DISCRIMINATION*—Unlike in South Africa, there is no segregation or colour prejudice of any kind in Portuguese territory. A very amusing incident having taken place, recently in Lourenco Marques, was on everybody's lips there. One white gentleman and a lady from Transval had come to Lourenco Marques and they happened to go to cinema to see pictures. A Parsi gentleman and his wife Mr : and Mrs : Bamansa Hormusji who have acquired property in Portuguese territory and are domiciles in L-Marques, themselves figuring in the story related to me how this white pair objected to their sitting side by side with them in the cinema house—they protested vehemently and asked the management to call for police who eventually did come but pointed out to them that, the kind of disgraceful discrimination as was prevalent in South Africa, was absent here and as such, they regretted, the Portuguese Law could not help them. They were further told that they had paid as much as those Indians had paid. Thus they were silenced, but kept on swearing all the time, at our Parsi friends.

(d) *AGRICULTURE*—Mozambique is said to be the original home of the Mosambi oranges that are commonly consumed in India.

Pea-nuts or monkey nuts, the same that go by the name of ground nuts together with maize, make the staple food for the poor, here.

I had a talk with a U. S. 'A. domicile, an agriculturist in Portuguese East Africa owning 30 hectares or 75 acres and making Rs. 300/- per month net, growing maize called Mirya in Portuguese, and monkey nuts and I could see from my observations that agriculture was a profitable pastime over there.

Round about Mozambique, cashew and cocoanut palm cultivation abound.



Mr. Mrs. and Master Ba'mansa Hormusji  
A Parsi family domiciled, and owning property in Lourenco Marques  
(Portuguese East Africa).



## 20. LIFE IN RHODESIA

Rhodesia is divided into two territories, Northern and Southern ; they are self-governing colonies with their own parliaments and constitutional governors. One noteworthy thing about Rhodesian constitution is the joint electorates by which Indians and colored persons vote for Europeans. Of late, there has been a move about the amalgamation of these two Rhodesias with the Union of South Africa, the former having so much in common with the latter. Salisbury, an important Air Junction is the present Capital of Southern Rhodesia where the population, by very recent census, numbers 55,400 Europeans, 2,200 Asiatics and 3,100 Colored persons. In addition, there are 2,54,200 natives in employment

Rhodesian railway like South African service is far superior to East African service.

Umtali situate near the Portuguese boundary on an altitude of 4,000 feet, is a decent township in Southern Rhodesia, all laid out on European style. At the time of my visit in the first week of September, a cold wave was passing over Rhodesia, which was caused by snow-fall at Johannesburg where the temperature was below 40 degrees F. Here there were a few Gujrati merchants dealing in fabrics and drapery.

From Umtali, en route to Salisbury, the visitor must see the historical "Zimbabwe Ruins", the origin whereof is still the subject of learned controversy.

*BULAWAYO* the largest and from the industrial and commercial point of view, the most important town, was the former capital of Southern Rhodesia. The first point which strikes the visitor is its great width of streets and how this came about, makes a romantic story. Dr. Jameson who was acting as administrator on behalf of Cecil Rhodes, insisted that all thoroughfares should be wide enough for a wagon and full span of 16 oxen to be able to turn with ease. Bulawayo's motorists are very



grateful to its founder for what has proved to be a remarkable foresight. The town is perfectly healthy all the year round. Maximum temperature is 78 and minimum 54 degrees while the rainfall averages 24 inches per annum, most of it falling between November and April. Taking a walk through the business part of the town, and viewing the beautiful modern buildings, the stylish shops, one is amazed specially when it is remembered that this is the fringe of so called "Darkest Africa", and where in Africa is there a town of comparable size—the population numbering about 12,600 Europeans with so many motor cars?

The Government House still maintained and kept in repairs is 3 miles away from the town, within the precincts whereof, a few sites of historical interest could be seen. Thatched hut of Cecil Rhodes still existing as a historic relic is one. Cecil Rhodes died in 1902 and the gun carriage which conveyed his body being another relic may be seen outside the above-mentioned hut. A tree with an enclosure (still another spot of historical interest) is called "Indaba" which in native language means "Court", for it was here that the King of Natives held his open air court. The said Government House building, where the governor and his ministers halt on their visit to Bulawayo, is covered with a thatched roof.

Natives are ruled by native commissioners, but their policy is directed by His Majesty's Government in England.

Before Rhodesia came to be named as such, the country was called Metabulaland or the land of Metabili tribe of natives, whose king Lobengula was very powerful. This king lived where stands at the moment, British Government House. The British in their war with this king, sacrificed a lot, for, a terrible massacre had taken place. A battle was fought at Metapos, 36 miles away from Bulawayo, where lie the remains of Cecil Rhodes the early explorer and pioneer after whom the country Rhodesia is named.





CECIL RHODES.  
One of the central figures in  
the drama of Jameson-Raid  
after whom Rhodesia  
is named.



The author on the right, along with Mr. Nagrani and his seven  
Children—Bulawayo. (Southern Rhodesia).

There is a public library housed in a fine modern building with over 20,000 volumes in the lending department, a big sugar refinery, a European concern in Bulawayo, importing molasses from Beira the Portuguese Port, and a fine Museum in the centre of the town, where besides the finest collection in South Africa, of pre-historic stone implements, all Rhodesian exhibits are displayed for scientific study viz. minerals, precious stones, animals, birds, fishes and reptiles, all found in Rhodesia. Among other things, the mine models of asbestos etc., are very instructive.

The most instructive gallery was that of the ethnological section where usages and customs of Zulus, Hotentots, Mashonas, Metabilis are illustrated by suitable specimens of each. Articles like clay pipes, snuff boxes, native orchestra, straw work, fibre baskets, native cutlery, bead work, magic and witch doctors' outfit could all be seen and studied.

Mica (a generic term for a large group of mineral silicates, muscovite and phlogophite) is being mined in the two Rhodesias besides in Kenya and Transval in Africa. Great supplies of Muscovite (or Potassium Mica) is derived from Bihar (India), Brazil, Quebec, U. S. A. and Russia.

Mica is chiefly used for insulating purposes in electricity. It is employed in windows, stoves, furnaces as also in various scientific appliances. Waste mica is ground up into fine powder and used in the manufacture of wall paper, tinsel hair powder etc. Powdered mica is now extensively used in Movie Picture Studios, in production of snowy scenes.

There is a small Indian community domiciled in Bulawayo comprising mostly of Gujarati trading class of people with about a couple of Sindhis, prominent among whom is Mr. Nagrani, a cousin of our Sind Government's former Hindu Minister, Mulji Gobindram of Hyderabad Sind. He is a rich, influential and independent Sindhi merchant and a very smart and cultured gentleman. He has lately returned from a 5 months' extensive

tour on the European continent whereto he had been, to study the latest methods of business. As an artist, designer, and most up-to date businessman, Mr. Nagrani's Silk store is a well known and largely patronised concern in Bulawayo, being managed by well-paid European sales girls. Mr. Nagrani is a domicile in Rhodesia where he has acquired property during his seven years' continuous stay. His children almost all born there, have Rhodesian rights and speak good English. He himself, aided by his Gujrati colleague one Mr. Vashi, is the officially recognised head of Indian community over there and as such, looks after the social and educational needs of Indians in Bulawayo. They have recently started an Indian Athletic Club where both boys and their parents, fathers, brothers and uncles receive instruction in physical culture twice a week.

(a) **INDIAN EDUCATION IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA**—In both Rhodesias, as also in the Union of South Africa, there are besides purely white schools, such things as coloured schools or schools for mixed races. There were as many as 2,200 Indians and other Asiatics in northern and southern Rhodesia and yet Indian children had to share schooling with coloured children in their mixed schools. The only purely Indian school, in the whole southern Rhodesia, has recently been started in Bulawayo, chiefly by the endeavours of the above-mentioned Sindhi merchant Mr. Nagrani in collaboration with Mr. Vashi the prominent member of Gujrati community.

The European Press in Rhodesia, wrote about the start of this school as follows :—

"After 18 months of hard work, voluminous correspondence and numerous interviews, the first Indian school in Southern Rhodesia has just been handed over to the Government by the Committee which collected funds to build it. The official opening ceremony was performed by the Colonial Secretary. The new school is intended exclusively for children of pure Indian descent and by arrangements between the two governments, three special





The only Indian boys' school recently started at Bulawayo—  
Southern Rhodesia.

teachers have come out from India to form the staff. The school is an attractive looking building, in cream white relieved by red doors and black lintels with three modernly designed and equipped class rooms, separate cloak rooms for boys and girls, a library room and the Principal's office. Though planned on modern lines, the school has a number of oriental architectural features appropriately introduced in it. Over the front entrance, is a green peacock, the emblem of Saraswati, the Hindu Goddess of knowledge. The school building is a monument of the industry of the Indian community. The prime mover in the scheme was Mr. V. B. Nagrani, the honorary Secretary of the Coloured School Advisory Committee, in which capacity he came to know of the extent of the need of a special school for the Indian community. He discussed the matter with the Inspector of Schools and subsequently he and Mr. Vashi saw the Director of Education. Indian community had to provide funds to the extent of £2500 wherewith to build the school and the Government to do the rest and take over the maintenance of the said school.

A grant of £1,000 out of the Charelick Solomon bequest of £5,000 for educational purposes, gave the committee very substantial help in their task of raising funds. A number of European sympathisers also contributed donations. Mr. Nagrani took an active part in designing the school building, and it was he, who introduced the oriental features with the co-operation of the P. W. D.

The Colonial Secretary at the opening ceremony remarked that the effort and sacrifice of the Indian community had been made with the definite object of bringing up their children, in the traditions and beliefs of their ancestors. They desired to maintain their nationality and to hand down to their successors, the best of the ancient Indian civilisation which was their proudest possession and their most valuable contribution to progress of Southern Rhodesia, the land of their adoption.

Because of the out and out European atmosphere



prevailing in Rhodesia, a white colony, where English Law, English traditions and usages are in force and contacts freely available, children educated there, are very brisk in talking. They are besides surrounded in streets, shops and all over by English speaking children, which is an additional advantage.

(b) *RACIAL DISCRIMINATION & THE IMMIGRATION LAW* — In Rhodesia although the feeling against Indians is not so acute as within the Union of South Africa, yet Indians are excluded from all services, so much so that, not a single Indian is employed there, either in government administration, or municipalities or on railways unlike as in East Africa, where the discrimination is however not statutory. One very disgraceful law exists there on the statute book, by which every Asiatic Immigrant however educated or cultured he may be, has to give his thumb impressions like criminals on three sheets of paper together with a fee of £1, before he is allowed to pass through Rhodesia. Although in actual practice, by proper introduction or influence, the law is more often relaxed and necessary exemption granted, but the feeling of humiliation remains.

The immigration officials are very often rude and discourteous towards Indian visitors and not infrequently detain them besides subjecting them to humiliation. Despite the immigration law I was assured by every one during my stay in Rhodesia that things were on the whole, very much more favourable as far as Indians go, than was the case in South African Union territory.

In my interview to the "Bulawayo Chronicle", the well-known European owned and edited Daily of Southern Rhodesia, I stressed, *inter alia*, the need of courtesy to be shown to Indians and that journal wrote as under :—

"An Indian visitor to Bulawayo, Mr. so and so, has only one criticism to make of Rhodesia and that is that a little more courtesy might be given to educated Indians. He himself is a graduate and yet he has been sometimes denied even politeness. He suggested that the immigra-

tion and railway officials might do a little towards making travel for visiting Indians, a little easier particularly when trade between the two countries was a question of the moment.....”.

In the course of the interview, I asked a direct and pointed question of the European editor if he would like some Indian capitalists to come over to settle down in Rhodesia as agriculturists. His prompt reply was “No” for the obvious reason that Europeans were afraid of unhealthy competition as also the low standard of living of Indians. In turn, he apprised me of his view that India was a very wealthy country. I contradicted him forthwith assuring him that it was an erroneous belief of his and others of his way of thinking. I pointed out to him that there was extreme poverty in the midst of plenty in our land and that nowhere on the face of the globe was distribution of wealth so unjust, unfair and inequitable as in India, where on the one hand there were Rajahs, Maharajahs, Princes, Nawabs and landlords rolling in luxury and wealth, but on the other hand, he who runs may see the ghastly sight of people not in hundreds and thousands but in millions who do not know what two meals a day are.

### (c) *VICTORIA FALLS*

Early History  
of Falls

Until the middle of the 19th century, the interior of South Central Africa was a sealed book. The popular idea was, that it was a desert.

Travellers, explorers and hunters had penetrated into the interior, here and there, by ones and twos, but the heart of the continent still remained untouched by civilised influence. Early maps which showed lakes and river systems of this part of Africa, did give prominence to a great river called by different native names, Cuama, Leambye or Zambezi, which it was said, was interrupted by cataracts and that is all.

Nobody talked of the Falls which are known today as most stupendous and terrific. It was that great missionary and explorer David Livingstone who, after

completing his famous journey on foot, from west to east coast of Africa (or from Atlantic to Indian Ocean), was the first white man to have realised in November 1855, the greatness, grandeur and glory of the Falls which thereafter came to be named as *Victoria Falls*, after the name of the then ruling Sovereign of England.

The African natives called the Falls, in their language "Mosioa-tunya" which means "Smoke that thunders".

Lord Curzon, who during his Viceroyalty in India, brought about national awakening among Indians, was a world-travelled man and being a scientific traveller, spoke of these falls in his "Tales of Travel," as

*"THE GREATEST RIVER-WONDER OF THE WORLD"*.

David Livingstone while dwelling at length on this glorious spectacle, is reported to have said, that "the Falls must have been gazed upon, by angels in their flight".

And today as we see it It is a great river "Zambezi" waters whereof, are hurled down from the cliff wall, over the perpendicular height of about 420 feet. The most wonderful thing is, that the falls are full, one mile and a quarter wide. Opposite the falls, on the other brink of the chasm (whence we can stand and gaze at the falls, as though we are standing in some showman's panorama and are looking across an intervening Hollow) we can walk from left to right and right to left.

While gazing at the falls, one would ordinarily be lost in that Nature's Masterpiece, but for two things which call to attention the "Reality" and these are, the scud of the spray storm lashing us in the face, as also the rattle of eternal thunder, beating the drums of our ears.

It is rather difficult to describe this, a little over one mile long race of waters, thundering like a cavalry charge, to its doom and then perishing in the clatter of its terrific downfall. I saw the falls in the month of September, but even in the month of January, we were told, they were fuller and finer. The finest and the most



The world-famed Victoria Falls (Rhodesia).



unique gift of Nature, to the Falls, is that tree-clad walk (about a three quarters of a mile long) on the opposite side of the falls. The spray storm of the falls surges so very high, from the bottom of the chasm and descends through the trees of the said shady walk, drizzling there as it were. That is why the shady walk has earned the name of "Rain Forest". One has always to use a rain coat and an umbrella while walking through this Rain Forest.

Another most imposing view of the falls, could be obtained from Cataract Island. One can stand here on the upper lip of the fall and look down the whole length of the stupendous trench or fissure into which it plunges. No waterfall in the entire world, can present any spectacle in sound as well as sight, to compare with this. And never can there fade, from my mind, the vision of those towers of descending foam, the shouting face of the cataract, the thunder of the watery columns, as they charge, roll down and are shattered in the bottom of the abyss below.

*Gersoppa Falls* in India, only 250 yards wide, but flowing over a cliff 960 feet high, in 4 separate falls, considering its drop, is the *highest in the world*. While "*Niagra*" in Canada, has a drop of very much less than 420 feet, but is full 7 miles wide, in which respect, it is the *widest in the world*. Victoria Falls, on the other hand, commanding a drop of 420 feet and a fall of 100 millions of gallons per minute, are  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles wide——the *biggest in the British Empire* and yet both Gersoppa and Niagra, are nothing as compared to Victoria Falls in point of volume of waters falling and that marvellous phenomenon presented by it, of spray storm causing rain in the forest opposite. The splendour of rainbows sighted for most part of the day, dancing over the falling waters, could best be enjoyed here.

The Victoria Falls are easily reached to-day. It is a run of 51 hours from Beira the Portuguese Port, of 47 hours from Johannesburg, the City of Gold in Transval and of 57 hours from Cape Town of the Extreme South.

A little further away from the Falls, the fallen river Zembezi again winding its way on, is crossed over by a road and rail bridge which is recognised as one of the world's greatest Engineering feats. The span of its main arch is 500 feet, its rise at the crown is 90 feet, while the height of rail level above waters is 355 feet.

The Devil's Cataract, Livingstone Statue, the big tree 87 feet in circumference (another wonder of the world) are some of the noteworthy things of interest over there, which the visitor has to enjoy and admire. The Victoria Falls Hotel owned by Rhodesian Railways, situate close to the Railway Station is an imposing palatial structure, up-to-date in every respect and is, on that account, very popular among aristocracy, where lodging and board could be secured at not less than 25 to 30 shillings or 16 to 18 rupees per day.

Six miles away from the falls and at an altitude of 2400 feet Livingstone named after that great missionary explorer, is a neat little township spread out well, with a population of about 600 Europeans and about 40 Indians (mostly Gujrati Hindus). There were about 10 or 11 shops built by Indian merchants (with shops in front and residential quarters, kitchen garden and open courtyard at the back). Prominent among them were Messrs. Nana and Patel, well known business men of that place.

## 21. LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(a) *AGRICULTURE*—The country of Rhodesia particularly the Southern territory looks very interesting and inviting from train windows. One finds green and red crested trees all over the mountainous tracts commanding a splendid view of red-clad hills. Locusts seen to be constant visitors to Rhodesia. Two large swarms of locusts were reported to have swept the country, a fortnight before my visit and their visit appeared ominous for ripening wheat all over the country.

By the end of September wheat is harvested there. About 3 miles away from Salisbury, extensive tobacco cultivation could be seen; this tobacco feeds the factory situate on the tobacco farm—Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain and Ireland—a very big European concern.

Soil all over Southern Rhodesia is red coloured. About 16 miles from Bulawayo, Animal husbandry experimental station situate on the grounds of Rhodes Metapos Estate, is worth while a visit. A number of experiments on animal feeding and breeding is carried on here; the typical feeding ratio adopted by them in their feeding experiments is as under :—

3 Parts of maize meal.

1 Part of wheat bran or sunflower seed and head.

1 per cent common salt (sodium chloride).

5 per cent bonemeal.

1 Part of ground nut oil cake.

Diseases common amongst cattle in South Africa are said to be foot and mouth, anthrax, as also African coast fever.

The well-known breeds of the country are :—

1. Africander (Typical South African).

2. Short horn.

3. Hare foot.

4. Sussex.



I saw one Africander bred bull priced at Rs. 3000/- capable of covering 40 cows (with a maximum of 60) per year. Cattle there is reared for dual purposes as also for beef. Creamery and dairy marketing of Francis town are too well known to be ignored by one interested in agriculture and its allied industries.

Transval is noted for its vast stretches of citrus fruit producing areas. The soil is all red colored in which grow and thrive in abundance orange orchards. The mainline from Pretoria to Lourenco Marques, branches off to Zebediela which is the most prolific citrus producing area in South Africa and is also the commercial centre of considerable maize and groundnut farming activity of the neighbouring area of Springbok flats. On the vast citrus estates at Zebediela, one could see 600,000 orange trees at full bearing age; this estate in particular, for those interested in horticulture, is well worth a visit.

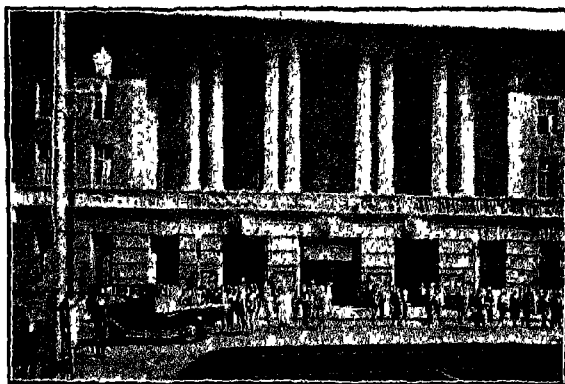
Tomatoes of South Africa are a curious variety solid like and as big as apples. Apples of cape province are a speciality of this land, besides flowers and vegetables. Agriculture in general is far advanced all over and in its practice, labour-saving machinery is largely employed. There is a good deal of sugar cane cultivation in Natal. The coast-belt is the home of Durban's great sugar industry and the waving fields of cane, add their own peculiar charm to the country side.

(b) *SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS* — The South African Railways and Harbours administration operates over 13000 route miles of line and 10,500 miles of road motor services.

National Travel Service, a great state organisation of South Africa, with their offices in all of the principal centres of the Union is a great blessing for prospective travellers, for whom not only tours are efficiently and economically planned (both for individuals and parties), but statements of cost on all heads are also worked out, in advance. Indeed there are a few countries in the world, where railways do so much for the comfort of the traveller.



Zebediela — An important citrus producing area in Transvaal  
as viewed from air.



Johannesburg City Railway Station.



South African Railway-corridor type  
carriages.

1st or 2nd class compartment, showing  
how beds for the night are made up.

The railways are all of metre gauge and the carriages all of corridor type. In each compartment, there is an arrangement by which beds are made up for the night as also a table on which one can dine with ease. Sleeping berths are entirely different from those on British and Continental railways. For a meagre fee of three shillings a clean bed is supplied not for one night, but for unbroken journeys or for as long as the journey lasts. Attendants make this bed at night and remove it in the morning. Soap and clean towels are supplied free.

One of the great beauties of these railways is that, almost all material of travelling requisites like bed blankets, towels, soaps, etc., are of South African manufacture.

Every cash receipt passed reminds the traveller on this railway system that complaints of incivility, inattention or overcharging are to be immediately reported to the catering superintendent or other officials concerned.

No tickets are issued until the berths of intending passengers are reserved in the first instance. Conductors on these railways are very mindful of passengers' comforts, coming oftener to enquire how they are feeling, how far they appreciate landscape scenery sighted through train windows, what they needed at the moment and so on. On these railways, for every long journey, one is asked if he or she would care to insure his or her life against accidents or death on extra payment of 4 to 5 shillings only. What an excellent idea!

The finest station on this system, is that of Johannesburg which is a subway station with 16 platforms all electrically lit. Train timings, weighing and platform ticket issuing machines are seen everywhere on the subway passages. The station building itself, a double storied one looks more like a museum or a public institution. Booking offices ever busy are situate inside the semi-circular halls, where reservation of berths as a matter of necessity is also done. People waiting to book, are always queued up. Outside, under a huge dome, hair dressing saloons, bookshops, tea rooms, sweets and fruit stalls

where the different wares are finely displayed as in an exhibition, are all wonderfully planned.

The station subways are so designed that a few of them lead the passengers straight to certain streets without touching any part of the station structure itself.

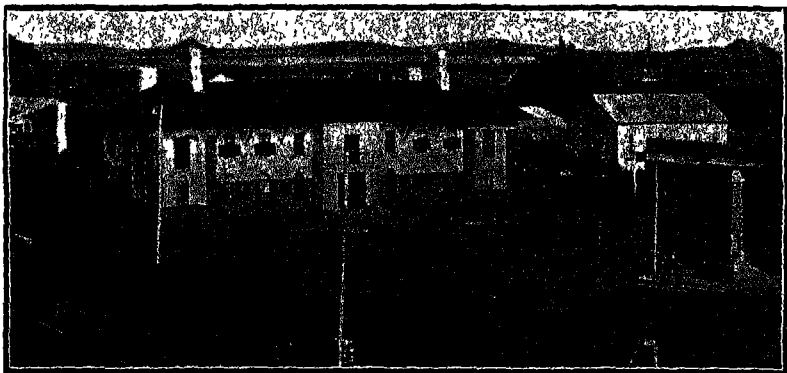
Extreme form of segregation of Asiatics and other colored races, is an unhappy feature, however, of South African railway administration.

Even though there be vacant berths in a compartment where only one white passenger may have been booked, they would not put an Indian there however highly placed in life he may be.

A gold mining inspector deputed by Government of Mysore and a Bengali Professor of the Government of India's School of Mines (Bihar) were my co-travellers en route to Johannesburg and we three were booked in one compartment almost in the rear far away from European compartments, as though we were untouchables.

(c) *PIETERSBURG (TRANSVAL)*—En route to Transval, Mafeking a decent town marking the boundary of that country is reached where the Immigration Law demands a deposit of £50 and the requisite permit for one sterling for entry into the Union of South Africa. When a visitor is of public standing and carries recommendations, he is required to pay the minimum of £25 as it happened in my own case. In spite of such disgracefully discriminatory laws enacted by that country and rigidity observed in dealing with foreigners in general and Asiatics in particular, it must be conceded in all fairness, that the authorities concerned are very courteous and polite. It was this place Mafeking where Boer war was fought and whence bifurcation takes place to German West Africa and to Union of South Africa.

To-day at Pietersburg, the principal and modern town and air port with good hotels and shops, in Northern Transval, where not so many years ago, the Natives determinedly disputed the right of the white man, to establish a settlement, the arrival of London-Capetown



Town Hall — Pietersburg (Transval).



air mail is a matter of course and yet just beyond the outskirts of the town the native chiefs hold powerful sway over numerous tribesmen.

In the vicinity of the town, are found a variety of captivating scenic attractions which the visitor must by no means, miss.

Pietersburg may rightly be called the hub of Northern Transval and it is from here and through rugged country of rare beauty and rich in scenic grandeur, that splendid provincial town roads radiate to all parts of South Africa.

Indians, mostly Muslim Borahs, are trading here, in large numbers ; they hold there, even properties acquired in earlier days.

The town is besides, the chief centre of a rich agricultural and highly mineralised area 50,000 square miles in extent. Thus today it has grown to be an all-round centre of decided charm. The 40 miles of broad, well-kept streets are indeed a credit to the municipality of the town.

After leaving Pietersburg, the great North Road traverses a part of the country which is still largely in an un-developed state. Passing through tree-clad vales, the road now ascends a gently sloping hill, on the crest whereof, the traveller beholds in the landscape, stretched at his feet, glorious canvases from Nature's brush.

(d) *PRETORIA & OTHER TOWNS*—Pretoria (the stronghold of Boers in South Africa) is regarded as an old city and on that account called "The Dignity of Age" and yet it was founded only in 1855. It would be difficult to find the two cities viz. Johannesburg (the wonder city of Africa) and Pretoria, so close to each other and yet so wide apart, in every other respect. Less than 45 miles separate them and an excellent, highway, lined with beautiful trees is only an hour's run by car. A public telephone after every 5 miles to be utilised by motorists for succour in case of accidents on the way, is a fine feature of this 40 mile road. Any disabled car must legally look up to the passing cars for help according to the traffic law strictly in force all over South Africa. The ups and downs and the low vales on the way



are so very lovely. Pretoria, spread out on the lines of European towns and presenting a fascinating view, is the administrative capital of the Union of South Africa. Union buildings whence the administrative machinery of the country is operated and controlled, situate on a hillock right in the heart of this City of beauty, of tree-lined streets and of fine buildings is the proudest pile designed by Sir Herbert Baker. These magnificent buildings—a veritable sight, are reached by circular roads served by tram cars as well. From the terrace studded with floral beds, one can command a bird's eye view of the whole of Pretoria spread out down below in shallow valleys. The Union buildings presenting Roman style of architecture, are 3-storeyed, reached by lifts; the cost of the entire edifice is said to be 2 million sterling or 2½ crores of rupees. All the material used in this colossal structure is of local or South African manufacture with the exception of doors and windows which are made of pucca teak wood imported from India.

Premier General Hertzog's office equipped with furniture and fittings all of South African teak, the rare design of his writing table with circulatory corner drawers and the life-size portraits of Premiers and ministry both past and present, hung up on the verandah are a regular treat of instruction.

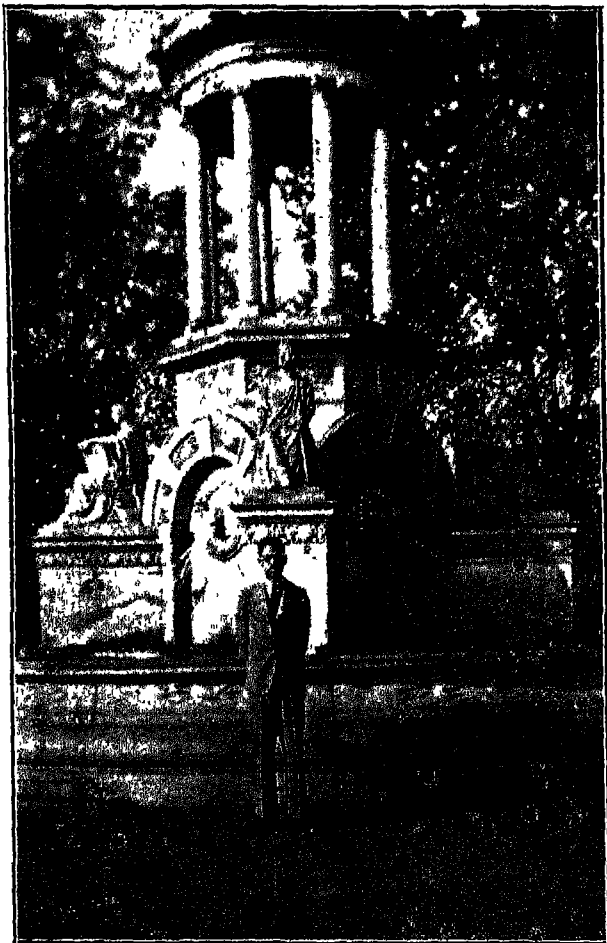
Typical Boers, a coarser people, anti-Asiatic and very much different from the original Dutch people of Europe, going by the name of Dutch Afrikaans, form a settlement in Pretoria which owes much of its prosperity to its proximity on the one hand, to Kimberley's premier diamond mine, worked on "Open" system, resulting in the largest man-made crater in the world, and on the other hand to Rand gold fields of Jo'burg.

Outside the railway station one finds a bronze statue of President Kruger unveiled in 1925, the year of the Centenary celebrations of the birth of first President of the Union. President Kruger's old home one storeyed house is now a National Museum.

The famous Zoo of Pretoria, within precincts whereof



South African Union Government building (Pretoria)



*A corner in the famous Zoo of Pretoria.*

stands the old museum containing the President's coach and an interesting historical exhibit known as "Bratina or the Fraternity Cup" presented to General Cronje by 70,000 Russians during the Anglo-Boer war, must on no account be missed by the visitor.

The entrance fee per head is nine pence and at the outer gate, pictures of Zoo animals are available for sale. One new thing about this zoo was a large collection of parrots of Africa, South and West America in chains, perched outside in the open. A regular gymnasium consisting of swings, see-saws etc., pony and elephant rides and amusement parks are provided inside the zoo for the younger folk whose happiness and health are the first care of the Union government.

Adjacent to this zoo, is the museum to which however admission is free. This museum presents the whole history of transval, telling its own tale of General Botha and his work, his coats and armours, national trophies and of councils of Anglo-Boer war, portrayed in oil paints. Besides, through its Oriental Art section it enlightens visiting public, about ancient things of China, India, Egypt (with mummies 2000 years old), Sudan, East Africa, Zululand and last but not the least, the innumerable tribal relics.

The city council (or the Municipality) of Pretoria has spared no expense in its efforts to beautify the city.

No visitor to Pretoria should miss the illusion of a huge tree called "Wonderboom" about five miles away from the city. It is a cluster of trees looking in circumference like one solid huge tree.

The Hartebeestpoort Dam, barricading a pass in the Magaliesberg range, about 22 miles west of the city and holding up the water of the Crocodile river, has created a lake of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  square miles in extent, which irrigates 30,000 acres of land and is a favorite resort of Pretorians.

CAPE-TOWN perhaps the oldest town and port, associated with social and historical things commands spectacular scenic attractions. It is praised on all hands, as the ideal health resort, for, there are no weather

extremes at the cape. Scenically too, its charm is unrivalled. Anthony Froude the celebrated English literary historian wrote, "In all the world, there is perhaps no city so beautifully situated as Capetown".

*KIMBERLY*, the world's greatest producer of the precious stones is spoken of as the sunniest town in the world.

*PORT ELIZABETH* is the popular sea-side resort. Snake park (the second in the world, the first being in Brazil) maintained in scientific interests is a unique attraction of the place. The well known Sindhi firm Teikamdas Brothers of Johannesburg have acquired property and are running a business branch here.

*DURBAN*—Its early history is replete with romantic historical associations ; it is not that however, which attracts every year, thousands of holiday makers and travellers, so much, as the call of the sea, for, Durban has a wonderful bathing beach extending over about 5 miles. The port of Durban is universally admitted to be the busiest of all the South African harbours. Pleasant and restful afternoons can be spent in Durban's beautiful parks, of which, pride of place, must be given to the Botanical gardens, Mitchell Park and the Zoo. There is a considerable Indian community domiciled and doing business here.

*BLOEMFONTEIN*, centrally situated in South Africa and the capital city of the Orange Free State was the capital of old free state republic. Now it is only the judicial capital of the Union. An imposing block of buildings is that of the Grey college. The remarkably high average of clear nights here, has attracted many an astronomer from various overseas' universities. What is important, is that this is a great farming centre of whole of the province of Orange Free State. The sulphur springs of a radio-active character also attract a large number of visitors.

## 22. JOHANNESBURG, THE CITY OF GOLD.

Although in point of population, Cairo and Alexandria in Egypt, the first and second largest cities respectively beat Johannesburg, there is no city in the entire so called dark continent which can equal or excel this wonder city now regarded as London of Africa. Situate on an altitude of 6000 feet, this finest place in all Africa, is essentially a white city, where station coolies, taxi-drivers and others are all white people. Decent Indians engaged in trade, do live here and there in the city in the midst of whites but otherwise, the resident Indian community which is small, have separate dwelling places called "Locations" there as everywhere else in South Africa. I, along with the other two Indian arrivals by the same train, were received at the station by Mr. Parekh the Secretary of Hindu Seva Sangha, Reverend Shangamani, christian convert of Madras and principal of Government Colored School at Jo'burg and two newspaper correspondents. Later "Star" one of the well known English Dailies of Jo'burg, published my interview.

It was in September 1886, the gold area round about the present city, known as "Wiwatersrand" was publicly declared as gold mining camp—a conglomeration of tents, wagons, iron shacks and mud huts with a roofing of iron corrugated sheets. Later a township was laid out and today Johannesburg is a city of 10 to 21 storeys, laid out and planned on the lines of the great cities of the world like London and New York. Who would not marvel at the fact that with a population of four lacs (or 400 thousands) of whom the Whites are only half of the number, owning as many as 52,000 automobiles, living such a high standard of life, so well and wide apart that in extent and area, the entire city with all its suburbs and gold mining townships, is spread out in 60 square miles! "Krugar Dorp" is a beautiful and picturesque suburban township. It is a gold mining area. Nearing this town-

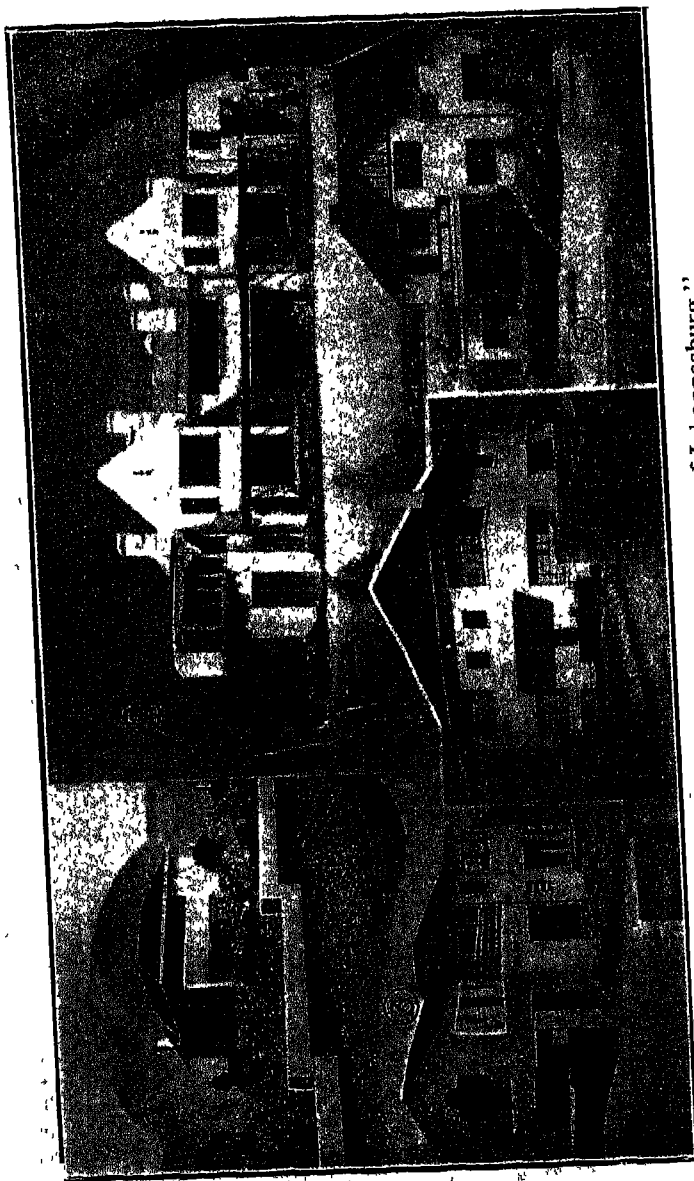
ship, one sights huge dumps of fine sand-waste, the resultant of gold extraction. Blue gum trees (of the family of Eucalyptus) growing as road side plantations, form splendid avenue all over. Picturesque garden homes with a display of floral beauty, give a varied impression of modern architectural features of suburban Johannesburg to-day. As the city abounds in motor cars, for those who enjoy the pleasures of motoring, there is a net work of tarred roads radiating to the many beauty spots all around Jo'burg. While driving through the city, particularly in the vicinity of the town hall, one feels, one is either in England or in U. S. A.

The street scenes of Jo'burg day and night would never be forgotten by a visitor. All business, barbers, bakers and all close down on Sundays. Tram service there, is any day far superior to that of Bombay or Calcutta in India where trolley buses like those of Jo'burg are not yet introduced. Red lights indicating tram and bus stations or stands are put up on high posts at night to guide tram riding public. The whole city is dotted over with parks and recreation grounds mostly for children. The gold of the city has turned its business parts into a scene of feverish building activity. The boom in mining has been responsible for the building program of over £12,000,000 (12 crore sterling). To-day 18 to 21 storeyed houses (something like famous 84 to 102 storeyed Sky Scrapers of America,) are springing up. Anstey's storeyed structure, with rounded corners is well known there and so is Jo'burg's 21 storeyed business block which is erected on 10 feet solid iron basement, and 12 feet of shining marble stone foundation, built mostly of reinforced concrete. Nine and ten storeys and broad streets unlike those of Indian cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, are a common sight there. They have imitated all U. S. A. style in building civic life in Johannesburg. Waggons and carriages drawn by two to six mules with driver perched on a seat on Victoria Carriage style, are a common sight in and around the city; while for guiding traffic in Jo'burg there are "Robots" or automatic traffic

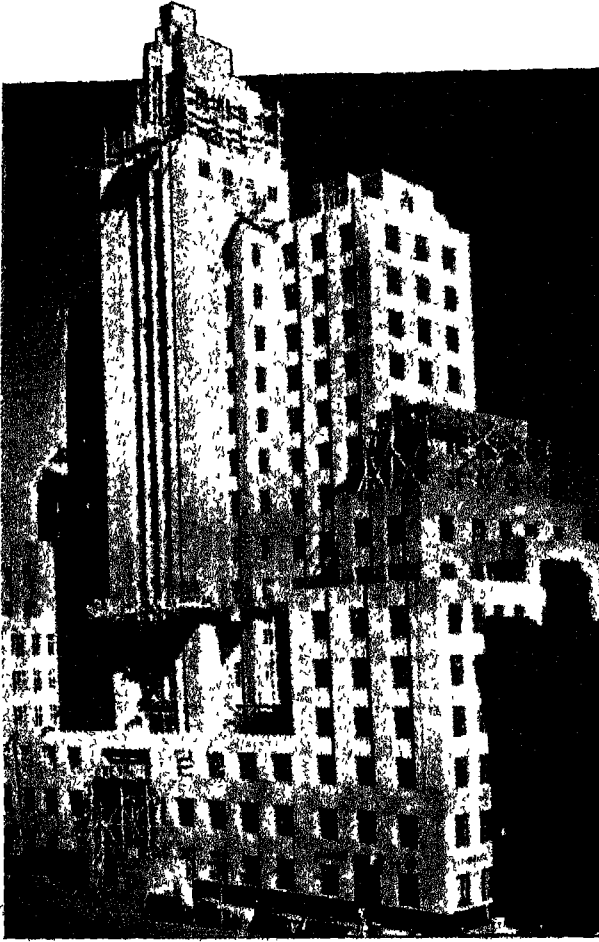


One of the fine streets of Johannesburg.





“ Picturesque Suburban Garden Homes of Johannesburg ”.



21 Storeyed "Sky-Scraper" of Johannesburg.



“A General View of a Mine Property on the Gold Area of Witwatersrand,”

directors with red and green signals, with the words "Stop" or "Go on" respectively.

The General Post Office of Jo'burg, a model of London, New York, Paris or Berlin post offices, is a regular study. Its interior is a veritable fairy land. Fine places for writing letters are provided. Printed forms of all postal services like money order, v.p.p, money withdrawal, acknowledgment, telegraph, etc., are all encased in glass. Date calendars are seen fixed inside walls with aluminium plated covers electrically operated while the system of dropping waste paper, was a novel one. Inside an electrically lit mechanic chamber, a long printed list of all kinds of postal information, numbered, is exposed to view. One has simply to press a button, and the printed placard for needed information would come up when all that is wanted can be seen.

Stamp-selling machines, call bells at the counter for even the slightest delay, were other features of this mechanised post office where mechanical devices replaced human attendance.

Around the city, the two most fascinating places of interest, the zoo, containing one of the finest collections of South African animals housed under the most natural conditions possible and the adjoining zoo lake would delight the visitor's eye. These popular resorts are only about 3 miles from the heart of the city.

No grander spectacle could be sighted round about Witwatersrand area than the magnitude of operations involved in winning the yellow metal for which world is mad to-day. The gold mining output of South Africa is reckoned at 40 percent (as against only 4 percent of Mysore Kolar Gold Fields in India) of the total output of the world.

Since 1886 when the Rand (the gold area) was first proclaimed, 15 hundred million (or 150 crores) pounds worth of gold has been extracted from this amazing gold reef and we are told, experts reckon, that there is still more gold left in the ground than has already been dug out. To see these operations, one has to apply to the

Travel and Publicity Department which issues necessary permits. One of the mines, almost in the centre of Jo'burg is working at 8,500 feet or half a mile below the sea level. The organisation which controls the mining industry of this area, is recognised the world over, as a model of efficiency. Regarding the surface workings, the gold refinery at Germiston, 9 miles from Jo'burg, where 400 tons of standard gold are handled annually, if visited, proves highly instructive.

The machinery necessary to produce such a vast amount of gold, is bewildering in its diversity. The mines send to the surface and crush to powder over 100,000 (one lac) of tons of quartz (or gold-laden rock); every working day and employ in the process an army of 30,000 white men and 250,000 ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  lacs) of natives.

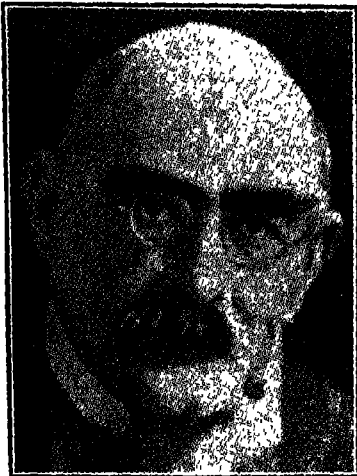
Mark Twain, the great American humourist and novelist in one of his writings has given an amusing description of what he had seen in Jo'burg. H. G. Wells, the living historical writer of England has also featured this wonder city of Africa in one of his novels "Research Magnificent." Rudyard Kipling who recently died and whose memorable lines "The East is East, the West is West, never the twain shall meet", still form a subject of criticism in the orient, did not lag behind. He too referred to the Rand gold fields as early as 1894 and wrote a poetic description of a gold mine battery.



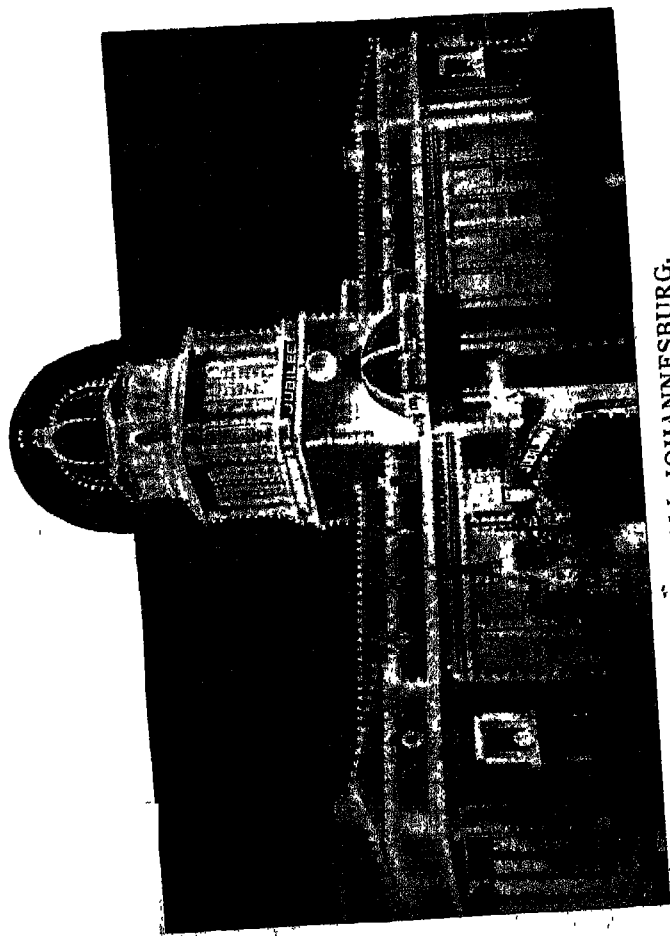
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1. Mark Twain. 2. H. G. Wells. 3. Rudyard Kipling  
who sang praises of Jo'burg.



TOWN HALL JOHANNESBURG.  
The Centre of Jubilee Illuminations. (1936-37).

## 23. GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE GOLDEN CITY.

In the year of grace 1936 while I was there, the golden city of Jo'burg was celebrating its golden jubilee, having completed full fifty years of its glorious existence. Since its inception in 1885 with only 50 souls living in tents and camps, roofed with iron corrugated sheets, swelling to 17,331 people in 1890 and 400,000 and over in 1936, it has grown amazingly into a fine city spread over 60 mile area with its gold area townships, suburbs and all.

The town hall was the centre of the marvellous jubilee illumination and the spectacle of the gold colored lights, rendered the city a veritable fairyland. A very competent artist and designer was selected as "Pageant Master". In a three-mile long procession 45,000 children in batches were present to witness this unforgettable pageant in the history of South Africa. An old stage-coach of earlier days of colonisation, was driven in the procession to show the earliest vehicles of transport. In that coach sat 89 Pioneers or patriotic ladies. As against that old style coach, were displayed modern six wheeled motor buses and trolley buses, the best of the transport department of the municipality. Further, in the procession was displayed in symbols, facts and figures, the output of gold round about the city in 1935, which was 10,564,904 (over 1 crore) ounces. The latest news however is that Russia has now beaten Rand, in this respect.

A patrol camp of the City's Boy Scouts' Association, Women's Civic Society's achievements symbolised, the history of the man who delivers the letters represented by a group of uniformed postmen, the past of the city's water supply in 1886, the way water was sold, its striking contrast to modern supply of the day,—farmer's vigilance Associations—Primary schools of to-day, their past and present depicted, technical education of to-day, what its



future needs are, shown by big posters—Pleasures of reading shown by what the city has so far done in promoting the institution of the Public Library—Demonstration of African Animals' Defence League's Symbol, the "Tree of Mercy"—Progress of commerce achieved, both past and present, demonstrated by City Chambers of Commerce, *fifty years of progress of Natives from the hut of 1886 to the present working of Native Affairs Department*—"A Garden is a lovesome thing" preached by city park department and what the city municipality has so far contributed towards "Health and Beauty"—work of Transval Amateur Swimming Association shown by facts and figures, greetings in bold letters of the well-known municipalities of South Africa, with photos of their Mayors and last but not the least, demonstration of *50 years of municipal government, features of civic development from earliest days along with photos of early administrators and the first municipal council which the city was granted in 1897*—all these and many more were the features of the Jubilee procession displayed in a grand style.

## 24. THE EMPIRE EXHIBITION AT JO'BURG (1936-37)

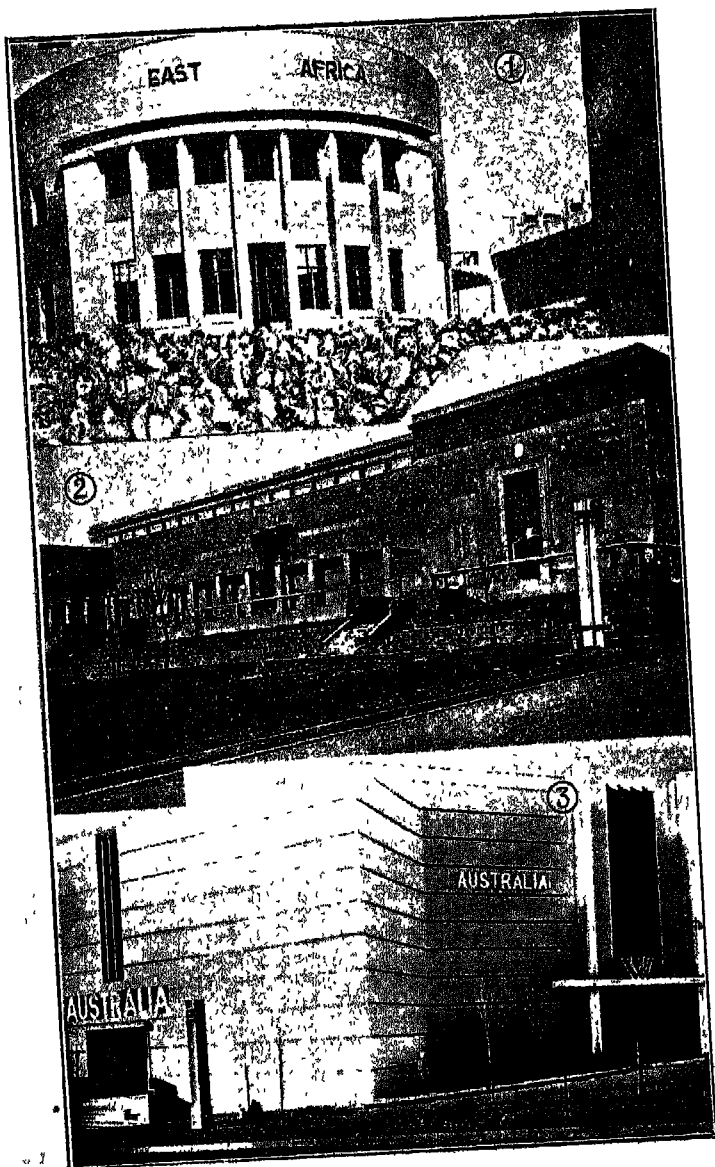
Reviewing the historical character of such gigantic exhibitions, the like of which India has not so far organised on her own soil, the great exhibition in Hyde Park in London in 1851, marked the development of old-time fairs into international exhibitions. "Wembley" in 1924, coming next, was devoted entirely to products and activities of the British Empire when 27,000,000 (or 2 crores and 70 lacs) of visitors attended. In 1936, came the Jo'burg exhibition which was the greatest British Exposition so far held outside the British Isles. It was a fitting commemoration of the jubilee of the world's greatest gold fields, the output whereof is one of the most important factors governing the financial conditions of the whole world. This exhibition which gave an idea of the colossal character of such world scale expositions as World May Fair, Century of Progress of U.S.A. and Leipzig Fair of Germany, being a part of the celebrations, of the golden jubilee of the golden city of Jo'burg, was so brilliantly planned and skilfully executed and so large in scope, that it left lasting impression on the minds of visitors who flocked together from all over the globe.

Unique things crammed within 100 acres at Milner Park (University grounds) which formed the grounds of the exhibition, were highly educative, "Showing Empire to the Empire". Three million (or 30 lacs) visitors on the first three days attended, while thousands frequented the grounds throughout the four months' duration of this exhibition, to witness the marvellous display of the products and achievements of one quarter of the human race.

The said exhibition epitomised the march of art, the artisan, industry and culture towards a common goal. No event on record in the whole of Africa possessed such

unique educational value as the display in different departments of this exposition. "Live" geography, exciting history, the marvels of invention, the latest triumphs of science, aviation from its inception to the latest stage,—all had their place at the Empire Exhibition. It required not hours, but days to wander among, observe and scrutinize the fascinating displays. One of the Governors of the African territories remarked: "More have I wandered through the crowded thoroughfares of the Exhibition, more I have felt evergrowing admiration of the conception, thoroughness of execution and efficiency of the organisation which have made it possible for so much of beauty and interest to be assembled in so short a space of time".

A visitor's first impression of this Exhibition was one of fairy like white buildings, myriad lights and waving flags. The entire scope and natural attractions of each dominion were vividly suggested. On entering the main entrance gate on the left, one found, South African Government Experimental Farm, with its four acres of carefully cultivated South African produce. South Africa was thus in the foreground. Bulk of visitors were South Africans who were made to see their country first. In their own pageant 2,000 South Africans appeared. The South African Government's £50,000 worth permanent structure housing exhibits from every government's department was a real achievement of that country to be proud of. The East African pavilion displayed great beauty and charm of Kenya, its suitability for settlement, of its commercial progress, its wonderful sporting facilities both there as well as in the adjoining country of Uganda, together with all about Tanganyika and Zanzibar. The Australian pavilion, with its wonderful semi-circular model (electrically lit) of Sydney Harbour Bridge fitted up in a very big glass case, which when watched, gave a perfect idea of the harbour, the liners and tiny boats electrically moving and wending their way, under the giant structure of the bridge,—with living parrots



### Sights of the Empire Exhibition.

1. East African Pavilion.
2. South African Government's permanent structure.
3. Australian Pavilion.



# Sights of the Empire Exhibition.

1. Victoria Falls Pavilion.
2. Tower of Light.
3. Empire Lake.
4. Gleaming pillar of gold.

and other birds lodged under natural surroundings, with an offer to buy them and with several other things afforded a rich treat.

The pavilion of Rhodesia's Victoria Falls' model with its rain forest, where the giant water fall was realistically reproduced and where 2,000 gallons of water per minute were passing over gorge with electrically operating train model going round over the gorge bridge, past the great railway hotel, was over-crowded from day to day. Zimbabwe ruins and Rhodesian products were housed in a separate elliptical pavilion, stone walls whereof deceived every one's eyes, even to the first touch.

The Exhibition tower known as the "Tower of Light" brilliantly lit up from the ground with its search lights at the top, was an immense structure of steel and concrete, towering 200 feet into the air which could be visible for 60 miles around. After the exhibition, now it is serving as a wonderful land mark to night flying airmen.

Artificial lake known as "Empire Lake" amid natural surroundings of a magnificent rock garden with a miniature waterfall pouring down from the terrace above, showing the amphi-theatre on the lake shore where visitors sat and listened to the band playing there daily, was a great attraction on the grounds.

The gleaming pillar of gold was still another attraction, which marked the Chamber of Mines' exhibits. This gold column of £200,000,000 (20 crores sterling) represented in weight, the actual amount of gold taken from the mines of Witwatersrand area during the last three years.

Display of old mining implements and primitive stamps in a remarkable contrast to modern tools and machinery and specially constructed stope, where were reproduced the conditions under which gold was excavated, were the objects attracting large crowds to mining chamber's pavilion.

Nearby were displayed a magnificent collection in a marvellous array, of Kimberley Diamonds worth many million sterling. South African Research Pasteur Station

adjoining it, with the literature, serums, and cobras, could as well be seen by those interested.

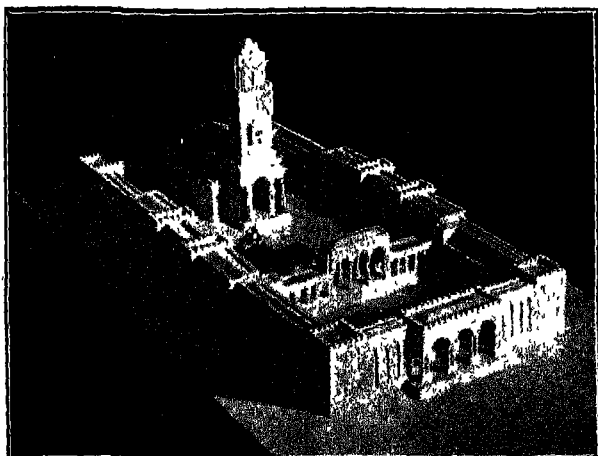
Another most interesting thing was a huge "live" model of King Solomon's temple exactly as it exists in Palestine whence a special architect and engineer came over to construct it on the Exhibition grounds. This temple-model could be seen and enjoyed on extra payment of a small entrance fee of 8 pence per head.

A real lead was however given by Great Britain by putting up their building and Port of London model reminding every one of the visitors, of the Empire's best known river and the most historic bridge. The Port of London Authority were represented on the grounds, by their ornamental structure 60 feet high. London tower bridge on river Thames, twinkling lights in the port, the progress of the port from its inception up-to-date, were the great features of this exhibit.

The United Kingdom pavilion, an almost exact replica of the famous building admired by the whole of Europe at the Brussels Fair of 1934, wherein, men, women and children streamed in, every morning at the rate of 100 per minute particularly to see the £ 6000 worth water map of the British Empire with actual blue waters surrounding the relief body of the map, and with its amazing lighting effects, electrically displaying, chief industrial centres and harbours as also the air and sea routes, repeatedly marked by lines of green and red lights, was indeed a most marvellous exhibit.

Of the Exhibition Bazaar, overseas industries and arts shown and sold by English girls, the only one Indian stall opened by a Kathiawari Moslem domicile in South Africa, selling Agra marble and Bombay leather factory wares, British Railways and Travel Industrial Association stall together with Imperial Airways stall exhibiting world connections and models of planes, each housed separately, were the special features.

Of the other component parts of the Empire, Canada and New Zealand were very well represented on the Exhibition grounds. One could see displayed on a large



A "live" model of King Solomon's temple in Palestine,  
as erected on the Empire Exhibition grounds.





scale, in Canadian pavilion all that the country produced and manufactured, in all walks of life, along the latest lines. Here among other things we saw apples from the Maritimes carefully preserved on their branches, copper, gold and iron ore from Quebec and Ontario, grains of all sorts from Western provinces of the dominion and a small house constructed of British Columbia timbers. Many of Canada's premier industrial firms co-operated with the government in the display of their wares. Similarly if one moved to New Zealand pavilion, the wonderful products and attractions of that Island were so displayed there as to make one feel as if one had actually travelled to New Zealand. Living scenes like sea waters shaking like real waters, with high hills in the back ground and boats anchored—all displayed in a big glass case, were a special feature of this pavilion. All important towns of South Africa, viz. Durban, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein, East London and Capetown were well-represented by suitable "live" models on the exhibition grounds but of all these, the models of Durban and its harbour under a separate pavilion styled as "Durban Court" were at their best and attracted large crowds.

Ceylon, a crown colony too, had put up a small pavilion where tea and cocoanut products and by-products were neatly exhibited.

India was the only country in the Empire, which abstained from participating in the Exhibition. The Indian National Congress in the Central Legislative Assembly refused to sanction India's contribution to this grand spectacle, ostensibly on economic grounds, but actually on the grounds of ugly discriminatory laws operating against and the shabby treatment meted out to, Indian Nationals in South Africa.

Bushmen village camp was another rare sight to see, on the Exhibition grounds, where a few surviving typical Bushmen (for, their race is almost extinct) were on view to curious thousands; they were dwarfs, out and out barbarians, wearing skins, otherwise almost naked,

behaving like monkeys, and seen amidst natural surroundings.

Agriculture in South Africa, was displayed in a very impressive way on the Exhibition grounds. Electrically revolving, dissected insect models, letters in explanatory sentences embedded with maize cobs, a huge topographical map showing the fruit areas of the Union, relief maps of insect pests area in the Union, agricultural map electrically lit with different products located, prepared by the School of Agriculture, among other things, were the chief exhibits, in this section.

In another section, under the caption "Service to Farmers" (letters all electrically lit) plant diseases were shown on a revolving disc electrically rotating. Railway routes to various agricultural tracts and wind mill models actually pumping out water from sub-soil, operated electrically, were also beautifully exhibited.

Under Marvels of Science, the institution of post office from its very inception right down to most modern working of it, the telephone, actual guns through all stages of progress, parts of aerial machinery, together with aerial camera showing the method of timing to fire through air, were all marvellously displayed. One could study in another separate section, Native arts and crafts. Soap-making in one place was illustrated by a big realistically produced model of a woman standing near a kettle containing soap solution in froth actually boiling electrically and ready soap specimens shown near at hand. In this arts section, one thing of special note could be seen. Inside the glass covering, there was a platform shown, in centre whereof, a big hand-made relief map surrounded by pictures of different arts and crafts, was on display.

Under the head Education, each province of South African Union was shown separately. Among the best exhibits to benefit by, in that direction, were, for instance, best competitive essays of school children, on subjects like "Wild birds of my neighbourhood", kept in glass cases, for public inspection, as also a large variety of

drawings and paintings executed by pupils and models of huge dimensions amidst natural surroundings.

Elsewhere, photos of past and present pioneers in Education, were seen hung up on the walls, together with portraits of the Union Education Ministers and their Secretaries in different years. Names of types of institutions and figures of enrolment of pupils in them, in different years were also in evidence in bold relief. Wonderful educational charts in colors were on display all over. Trade schools and their turn-over, kindergarten work, culinary art, typical foods with their scientific food value, were all, in themselves a great education for every one.

Elsewhere again a real locomotive engine on rails was also kept as a "live" model. Electrical machinery, the way it works, motor cars with their actual parts in motion, artificially to give an idea of the inner working of the motor engine, South African Railway bedding and catering shown in detail, within a railed enclosure, the actual working of railway with running trains stopping at stations and restarting automatically, passing through subways and tunnels amid natural surroundings, mountains and water actually oozing out of them, flowing streams crossed over by bridges, telegraph posts, actual working of signals and changing lines and levers, the working of air service similarly operated electrically, these and many more exhibits on display were highly educative for the young and the old alike.

The Exhibition town had, of course, its own banks, own fire stations, a police force, in fact everything required in the proper operating of a town of 30,000 people. Auto-trucks or motor trollies were plying on the grounds to enable visitors to go from one part of the Exhibition to the other; cars were all parked outside the grounds for a fee of one shilling each time. Radio loud speakers had been put up near the tree seats and on the tower all over the grounds, so that no matter, where you were, the same talk and the same music were audible everywhere.

Television demonstration for 20 minutes for a charge of sh. 3/6 per head was a marvel indeed.

Banks, breweries and other industries had all put up model stalls and every city or country pavilion had a clock outside showing its own local time.

A special camp had been arranged for children visiting the exhibition. They were left there by parents and for a small fee, they would be labelled, fed, comforted and put to bed, until reclaimed by their parents or alternately they would be taken about in special cars at 6 pence a stage to different parts of exhibition grounds. The usual charge for 3 meals a day was 2 shillings and 6 pence.

Lastly, the greatest attraction of this stupendous spectacle, on social side was the "Amusement Park." The Americas and Europes had invented nothing in the way of entertainment that did not operate in this ten-acre Palace of Fun. In a great open air theatre seating 10,000 people, a succession of spectacles were staged inclusive of a pageant of South African history and dances of the warrior native tribes. The art gallery was another wonder where, 1100 pieces of Canvas and Statuary contributed by S. Africa, Great Britain and Canada, were on display. It was a premier place of pilgrimage for art lovers of all continents. Behind the said art-gallery they had a great artificial ice-rink where one could hire ice-skates and enjoy many an hour on the gleaming surface.

## 25 SOCIAL & NATIONAL LIFE OF INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

In the Union of South Africa comprising of 4 territories viz. Cape Colony, Orange free State, Natal and Transval, the population of Indians is about 200,000 (or 2 lacs) the majority of whom live in Natal where they have to labour under political disabilities. For instance they do not possess the right to vote, they have no representation in local bodies and they cannot acquire land in Transval and above all they are segregated every where and made to live in separate areas called "Locations" as if they are un-touchables.

The Jews of Johannesburg, a powerful community, are very rich and influential, controlling almost all the financial circles of the city. The worst of these people is that intoxicated as they are by pelf and power, they hate Indians.

Considering their social life, because of white atmosphere Indians have strictly to conform to European style and standard and unless they do that, they can't possibly get on. Indians have had to surrender much of their social and religious life in that atmosphere. Owing to discouraging difficulties and distances, Hindus there, were gradually giving up their system of cremating dead bodies. Thanks however to Arya Samaj uplift work which has made cremation possible for every Hindu living there, according to their ancient practice. A good deal of social progress among Indian women, was in evidence in South 'Africa. Even Borah women did not observe purdah there.

There are bodies like Indian Associations, South 'African I-N Congress, Hindu Maha Sabhas, Hindu Seva Sanghas and Arya Samajes, for social and national uplift of domiciled Indian community in Maritzburg, Pietersburg, Johannesburg and Durban and all going strong for last 8 years or more.

## 26. EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

### (A) EDUCATION FOR THE WHITES

Within the limits of the four provinces of the Union, there are 5 Universities, 4 University colleges, 15 Teachers' Training Colleges, 8 Technical colleges, 36 Vocational schools and 4,839 primary and secondary schools.

Our educational system in India suffers from the most fundamental defect, as most of our educationists would point out and that is, lack of an organised plan. The original goal of the educational policy of the Government of India when it was first established, was to turn out clerks to serve the ruling masters ; later the goal changed somewhat and men were manufactured from out of the school and college factories, who would at least be peaceful and law-abiding citizens. Things are fast shaping themselves, now that nationalism is gaining ground in India. But in South Africa, from the very start, the goal has been definite and clear like a crystal. The educational system in force there, makes available, men and women who, as useful and patriotic citizens are capable of advancing the interests of their own self-governing dominion.

The five Universities in the Union are (1) Cape Town or Rhodes University (2) Durban (3) Witwatersrand at Jo'burg (4) Pretoria University which being the oldest was in full swing before England took it over and (5) Grev University at Bloemfontain in Orange Free State called after Sir George Grey, a Governor of the province.

Here the Chancellors of the Universities are not the provincial heads as in India, but they are either independent educationists or popular elected ministers.

Mr. H. J. Hofmeyr the Union Minister of the Interior who recently led a good will delegation to India, at the invitation of the Government of India, with a view to promote cordial relations between India and South Africa, is the Vice-Chancellor of Witwatersrand University at Jo'burg.

The School of Medical Research near about the



Mr. H. J. Hofmeyr, Minister of the  
Interior, Union Government and Vice-  
Chancellor of the Witwatersrand  
University.





1. Witwatersrand University buildings.
2. A Pavillion on Empire Exhibition grounds.
3. University Lawns and Swimming tank.

University building, is one of the best equipped in the world where even the murder cases of the state are examined. Attached to it is the General hospital the second largest in the British Empire.

The commendable features of the Witwatersrand University the finest in the Union, are, that the university buildings are situate, all in one enclosure, consisting of five to six stately blocks housing different faculties where 2,000 students aim each year to graduate in arts, science, medicine, engineering, law, music, architecture and mining.

Extensive grounds and luxurious lawns are attached to the said buildings. We were told, the complete original scheme of a quadrangle, would be set up when a few more blocks were completed.

Two things about this residential University modelled on the lines of English Oxford University, deserve special mention. (1) The Swimming Bath on the University grounds, the largest open-air bath in the whole of South Africa measuring 100 x 50, with 3 feet 6 inches to 8 feet 6 inches maximum depth, wherein 8 persons could run a race simultaneously and on either side of the swimming tank are built up dressing rooms for both sexes; (2) Physical training is given on these grounds under the guidance of the Director of Physical Instruction appointed by the University.

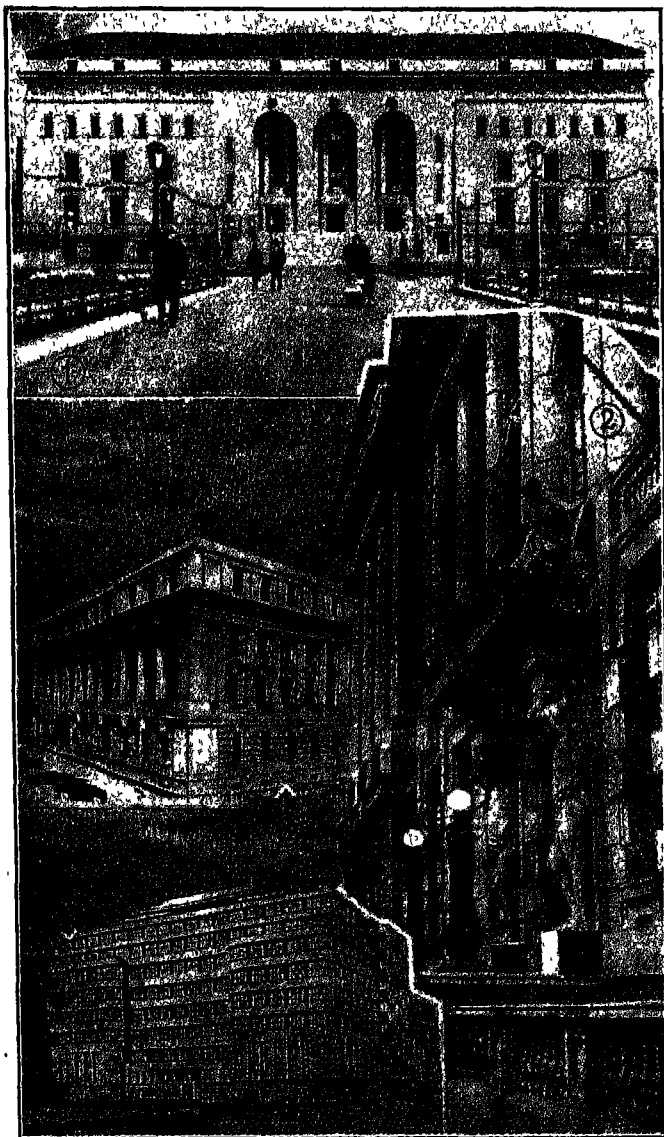
(B) *LIBRARY MOVEMENT*—In point of mass education, some of the progressive movements in South Africa have a lesson for us here in India. One such movement is that of South African Library Association membership whereof is 244, at the moment. The association has now adopted a useful scheme of examinations in librarianship. Being of country wide reputation, the said association recently organised, on behalf of the state library, an annual vacation school lasting for a fortnight in Durban which was attended by librarians from all parts of South Africa. The value of the course was incalculable. The association also published their first number of its quarterly journal entitled "South

African Libraries" in 1933 and its publication has been maintained ever since. Members have continued to make good use of the lending library of professional literature.

There is now a move to ask the Union Government to assume responsibility for all South African public libraries and to bring South Africa into the line with other civilised countries by means of a Public Libraries' Act for the Union. The Transval branch of the said Association alone, held 13 ordinary meetings, commanding excellent attendance, during the last 3 years. Several library authorities in Transval, are paying travelling expenses to members attending branch meetings. Johannesburg's new public library is a wonder indeed, as it commands a collection of 144,000 (one lac and 44 thousand) volumes and where 20,000 citizens are regular borrowers of books.

(C) *TECHNICAL EDUCATION*—The Witwatersrand Technical College—a mammoth institution, with headquarters at Jo'burg and branches in 8 neighbouring and other townships, is indeed a triumph of the Union Government in the direction of technical education. Being a great government subsidised institution, training youth for a useful career, it occupies a very prominent position, in the scheme of educational, industrial and commercial life of people there, and I was told, it was established in 1925 only. Complete facilities are provided for training in all branches of technical and commercial occupations, as under :—

1. Trade schools where courses in fitting, turning, mechanics in general, aero-mechanics, electrical engineering, black-smithy, boiler making, metal plate working, welding, plumbers' work, tin-smithy, carpentry, cabinet making and coach building, are taught. Admission is given after passing standard sixth.
2. Commercial high schools, where the medium of instruction is Afrikaan generally. Courses are given in thorough commercial education. Pupils are prepared for all national commercial certifi-



1. Front view of Jo'burg's New Public Library.
2. Old School of Mines where the University of Witwatersrand had its origin.
3. Existing Head Quarters of the Technical College. (Jo'burg).
4. New technical College as it will appear when completed.  
(Jo'burg.)



- cates and national senior certificate equivalent to Matriculation.
3. Schools of dress-making and millinery where special preparation for employment is given. Admission here too, after 6th standard English.
  4. Schools of domestic science at Johannesburg where training in all domestic subjects like cookery, needlework, embroidery, upholstery etc., is given.
  5. School of catering services at Jo'burg only, where training is given to waiters and chefs, in all branches of hotel management. Admission to this school is also ordained after the entrant's passing standard sixth English.
  6. Training colleges at Jo'burg, for domestic science, art, commercial and technical teachers as also for trade instructors.
  7. School of arts and crafts at Jo'burg, where training is provided in general art courses, painting, designing and modelling; training in art crafts is given to teachers separately.
  8. School of pharmacy recognised by South African Pharmacy Board.
  9. School of applied optics where courses for examinations of South African Optical Association are taught.
  10. School of aeronautics, where ground and flying instruction for "A & B" pilot's licenses, is given. Besides licenses in Air Navigator's Ground Engineer's and Air Craft Radio operator's courses are also granted.
  11. The Department of Engineering are holding technical classes for apprentices in all engineering trades, where Union Government Certificates of competency are given besides national diplomas in civil, mechanical and structural engineering.
  12. Department of buildings, hold technical classes for apprentices in all branches of building industry.

13. Examinations of the Royal Sanitary Institute for sanitary inspector's, health visitor's and school nurse's courses are conducted regularly.
14. Department of mining teaches complete courses for the national certificates in mining, surveying and assaying.
15. Technical classes for apprentices in printing, proof-reading, hair dressing, vehicle building and other industries, are also held.
16. Besides, evening schools of commerce are very common there, wherein training is given in all commercial subjects for business, together with holding of examinations of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, Institute of Bankers and various allied public bodies.

Mr. S. P. Mookerjee the Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University recently said, "It is important for us to bear in mind that a mere supply of trained youths qualified in various scientific or technical pursuits, will not solve the question of unemployment. Opportunities must be created for absorbing the services of such young men who must also be encouraged to take to trade, commerce and industry." In this connection, commercial public and trade associations in Transval fully co-operate with the Union Government and patronise the technical institutions.

In short, the South African Union Government has done all that and very much more, for the advancement of the peoples committed to their charge, in the matter of technical and industrial education in particular. This is what a free and self-governing country has achieved in 11 years' time only.

(D) *EDUCATION FOR INDIANS*—In spite of the fact that 80 percent of Indian boys of school going age, are receiving instruction in schools in the Union of South Africa, the education of Indian community is affected adversely by the worst type of discrimination prevalent there. This was made abundantly clear by the

Hindu Maha Sabha of South Africa, with a large number of Hindu welfare institutions affiliated to it, in their memorandum submitted recently to the Education Enquiry Commission. Indians living in South Africa, complain of their disabilities, saying that as a law-abiding people they are contributing towards the general revenue, by way of taxes imposed upon them and yet they are deprived of representation absolutely. Everywhere on the face of the globe that Burkonian principle of "No taxation without representation" rules, but in South Africa, this political principle is given a direct lie. A singular principle of "All taxation and no representation" is applied to Indians domiciled there, whose position therefore is reduced to what is contained in the following verse :—

"Theirs is not to question why,  
Theirs is to pay and sigh".

In the matter of education, they bewail the insufficiency of the number of schools and inadequate accommodation in them, for their children.

In point of female education, the South African Indians were comparatively backward though the proportion of female literacy among them was far higher there than in India. The superintendent of education in his report for the year 1934, clearly stated that 10,000 girls of school going age were not in attendance.

The Union Government have made education free and compulsory between the age of 6 and 16, but this principle is not applied to Indians who make a serious grievance of it, pleading that a large majority of them are market gardeners, hawkers, barbers and laborers and as such, their economic position does not allow them to bear the expenses of costly schooling of their children. At present, the system of exempting a number of indigent white children, is in operation there. The cry of Indians settled there is, why can't this principle, in all fairness be extended to Indian children as well. Associated with this, is the free supply of books to pupils which ought to be equitable and more liberal.



The practice of the latest idea in education, of bringing the school over to children and not the children over to the school, also applies to white children exclusively. Indian schools being few and far between, children have to traverse long distances and on that account, some of the children have hardly one square meal a day.

Free supply of milk, periodical medical inspection and clinic facilities are enjoyed by white children exclusively. All those boons and benefits, can, in all fairness, be enjoyed by Indian children as well. The Indian child in South Africa, is gradually losing all sense of his or her cultural heritage and the most effective means of instilling the same, is by imparting vernacular instruction. Indians therefore rightfully demand formulation of a system of grant-in-aid, to encourage vernacular education.

Another new idea of education by means of film and radio, now introduced in South Africa, is once again denied to Indian school children.

During my talk with foreigners on African waters, in regard to this state of things in South Africa, I was repeatedly told, that our extremely low literacy in our mother country (India) which was a brand on our national character, stood in our way, in colonies. Foreigners, however generous they may be in judging us, cannot overlook that indictment of vast unletteredness of India. And rightly so!

National government, at no time, whatever its form may be, could make this vast sub-continent of ours, literate in a day. It is a fashion with us to talk of and cite conditions in Japan, Germany, England and U. S. A, but we fail to see the absurdity of comparison between those self-governing, free and unfettered countries and our enslaved, poverty stricken India. To my mind, adult education on the lines of the scheme sponsored by Poona Seva Sadan, the great social uplift institution, would alone bring us quick salvation. If it does not work as a sole and sovereign remedy, at least 80 percent of our deficiency in that direction would be remedied.

## 27. RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

Unlike East Africa, the discrimination in the South against Asiatics, is statutory, and has assumed ugliest and most repulsive forms imaginable. To self respecting men all the world over, this disgusting color prejudice is nothing but "gall and wormwood". It is in evidence in every department of life.

On railways, Indians travelling by first and second class compartments and paying the same fare as the white people, are subjected to severest segregation, as if they are untouchables.

On Suburban railways in Johannesburg, there are same kind of first and second class compartments for both whites and non-whites but the two are never allowed to sit side by side. White passengers themselves would say nothing if one is well-dressed, speaks good English and behaves oneself but the conductor would come forward and say "Please Sir, do you mind coming with me this side, there is a special place for you". How humiliating!

In Jo'burg which is a white city, Asiatics are allowed to ride a tram on its upper deck while the whites sit on the lower deck. In Pretoria the stronghold of Boers, no Indian can ride a tram.

At Durban, another well known city of South Africa, while I was there, there was a talk about a Durban Indian, Mr. E. Hashim, who had fought single handed for the right of travelling on a municipal bus on a route, where no provision was made for non-whites, and lost. He had challenged the right of the Durban Municipal Corporation to exclude non-whites from a bus on that particular route. Mr. Hashim appeared in person at the bar of the supreme court.

There has now been a move, to have a partition put up in buses separating white from non-white passengers. The funniest part of it is that non-white rate-payers must pay the share of huge losses sustained every year

by the municipal tram and motor department. Who would gainsay, this policy of segregation on municipal vehicles, was not scandalous?

I was told, at one time, an Indian had the right to a seat anywhere on a tram car, though either by timidity or through consideration for the white people, Indians rarely exercised that right. Then followed the usurpation of this right and thereafter, all but a few seats at the back of the top-deck were intended for white people.

For a time, a few trams at certain hours, displayed a red disc which meant that non-whites might take any seat on the upper deck. Later, they had the innovation of special "Unreserved" cars for non-whites, on two routes, in Durban, on evenings only. They were painted green and carried a green light and were known as Green "Mambas" (or in native language snakes), as a term of derision. Many self-respecting Indians refused to board these trams. It is believed, that very oldest and most shaky vehicles were converted to this disgraceful type. Municipal buses till quite recently had no accommodation whatever for non-white passengers and it was this disability that the said Mr. Hashim fought against recently, and lost. There is one "Jim Crow" type of vehicles there with a partitioned portion at the back in which Indians, Malays, Chinese, Japanese, colored people and natives of many tribes, may, to the number of ten only enjoy the blessings of municipal travel.

This is the entire sorry tale of municipal travel for non-whites in the City of Durban.

No Asiatic can stay at a hotel anywhere in South Africa. In Jo'burg, Carlton and Langham are the only two hotels admitting Indians of status in exceptional cases and that also very seldom, at the rate of 30 shillings to 2 sterling per day.

All over there are "Locations" which Asiatics are compelled to confine to, for residential purposes. In Durban and Port Elizabeth, particularly in the former city, Indians being in large numbers have acquired properties. In Jo'burg Indians are debarred by law from

acquiring land. In recent years some have acquired land in the names of European friends, but that has been found risky. In Peitersburg and one or two other mofussil towns of Transval, Indians have acquired properties in earlier years but the Asiatic Class Area Bill put a complete stop to further acquisition ; the amendment to that Bill that was passed a little later, as the result of continued agitation carried on by Indians, is only an eye-wash.

In Orange River Free State, there are no Indians at all.

In Durban, has been residing for some years past the Agent-General to the Government of India, but in that tense atmosphere surcharged with race hatred and deep-seated color prejudice, he is helpless and has achieved practically nothing. He cannot do anything beyond securing temporary conveniences to distinguished visitors and getting ordinary grievances of domiciles redressed, if at all.

Talking of "Robots" (or automatic traffic directors) operating in most of the cities there, some one characteristically remarked that while, white human traffic directors could easily let down the colored pedestrians and other poor people, in view of horrible discrimination prevalent there, "Robots" being fair and scrupulously just, would never once even perpetrate a wrong like that.

Even in hospitals in South Africa, segregation of the severest type is being fought against. "Indian Opinion" the well known weekly of Durban, founded by Mahatma Gandhi, as early as 1903, recently writing on that subject, has suitably expressed the view as under :—

"If the Indian is not objectionable when he waits on the European, if he is not objectionable when he slaves to make him and his country prosperous, if he is not objectionable when he fights side by side with him on the battlefield, for the glory of his Empire, surely he should not be objectionable, when he is ill and is being nursed side by side, in the very ward of the hospital, just because the color of his skin happens to be a shade darker"

Normally Indians are of course subjected to differential and discriminatory treatment, but on the great occasion of a great historic event, like that of the golden jubilee of the golden city which was being celebrated and in token of which the Empire Exhibition was organised, one might suppose, perfect equality for the time being atleast, may have been in evidence, but unfortunately the contrary was the case. Color contagion did not spare this Empire Exhibition even.

The Ceylon government's salaried representative, Mr. Prakasham who thought India had blundered by not participating in this Empire Spectacle and that Ceylon was wiser on that score, for making a display of her trade and industries, on the very first day, wishing to have lunch served in European style, was refused admission to the section of the Durban Indian Hotel marked "For Europeans" on the Exhibition grounds.

Outside the Rhodesian Pavilion, I myself was insulted while taking tea at the Rhodesian tea garden, a place which was not marked at all, for Europeans exclusively. This incident when related to officials in charge of London Port authority, Canada and New Zealand pavilions, was deeply deplored by them all. A written complaint was made to press for publishing it in "Star" one of the outstanding European owned and European edited dailies of Johannesburg which had on the previous day, published my interview, but the editor of the said newspaper refused to publish it making certain misleading and evasive statements, in answer.

An Indian Press correspondent of Jo'burg, thereafter addressed the same complaint to "Indian Views" a weekly journal of Durban, which did publish it, under the following caption :—

#### "COLOR BAR ON EMPIRE EXHIBITION GROUNDS".

Sir,

I am quite alive to the fact that South Africa is a fortress of color bar and the longstanding and grievous

question of color prejudice is unfortunately a living reality in this country, so far as the Indians and other non-Europeans are concerned. I was led however to believe that the atmosphere of the Exhibition would not be tainted with color bar. I expected that it would be different and worthy of the great historic occasion, as the Exhibition was the standing monument of the genius of all those citizens of the Union who planned and designed the marvellous show. But I am grieved to learn that differential treatment to visitors from the different parts of the Empire, is in prominent evidence at certain restaurants on the Exhibition grounds. Only the other day, Mr. Khilnany, the honored visitor from East Africa,.....visited the Exhibition, accompanied by one of the proprietors of "Japan Bazar" a well known Indian silk firm of the city and met with an insult at the Rhodesian Tea Garden. He was surprised evidently at the treatment, as he was assured repeatedly in Rhodesia, that Indians there, were better treated than in the Union. Soon after he was served with tea, the native boy informed him that it was no place for Asiatics. No self-respecting and educated Indian would tolerate such a sort of insult on the premises of a spectacle which was styled as one of the Empire. Mr. Khilnany asserted the right by taking his tea alright and then went to the manager to protest strongly, particularly when nothing was shown at the Restaurant to mark it for the use of the whites exclusively. The manager apologised saying that they had orders to that effect, but admitted that some thing should have been put up on the outside of the Restaurant to guide the Non-Europeans.

The incident speaks for itself. It is deplorable indeed that the organisers of the Exhibition could not restrain themselves from indulging in manifestations of lamentable color prejudice towards Indians, at least for the four months' period that the show was on, particularly when promotion of better understanding and better trade relations between the different units of the Empire, was in view.

In the name of fairness and justice, we would appeal to the organisers of the Exhibition, not to tarnish the fair name of the golden city on an occasion like this, by making a display of this much detested discrimination. Else, it would be an exhibition for whites only and could not rightly be styled as the Empire Exposition, for, there would be no Empire without India and non-European peoples''.

# APPENDIX

## I. Tables of Places visited and Mileage covered.

### A. THE TERRITORIES TOUCHED:—

1. Seychelles Islands.
2. Kenya Colony.
3. Uganda Protectorate.
4. Tanganyika (or Former German East Africa).
5. Zanzibar Island.
6. Portuguese East Africa.
7. Southern Rhodesia.
8. Northern Rhodesia.
9. Transval.

### B. 27 TOWNS VISITED:—

	TOWN.	TERRITORY.	HT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.	PERIOD OF HALT.
1.	Port Victoria.	Seychelles Islands.	Nil.	1 (Days).
2.	Mombasa.	Kenya.	"	19 "
3.	Nairobi.	Kenya.	5500. Ft.	12 "
4.	Nakuru.	Kenya.	6100. "	2 "
5.	Timbora.	Kenya.	9200. "	— "
6.	Kisumu.	Kenya.	3726. "	3 "
7.	Kibos.	Kenya.	3726. "	1 "
8.	Kakamega. (Gold area).	Kenya.	4000. "	1 "
9.	Eldoret.	Kenya.	7500. "	3 "
10.	Kampala.	Uganda.	3900. "	3 "
11.	Lugazi.	Uganda.	3200. "	— "
12.	Entebbe.	Uganda.	3700. "	— "
13.	Bukoba.	Tanganyika. About	3700. "	1 "
14.	Mwanza.	Tanganyika. About	3700. "	3 "
15.	Tanga.	Tanganyika.	Nil	2 "
16.	Dar-es-Salaam.	Tanganyika.	Nil	6 "
17.	Zanzibar.	Zanzibar Islands.	"	4 "
18.	Port Amelia	Portuguese East Africa.	"	1 "
19.	Mozambique.	" "	" "	2 "
20.	Beira.	" "	" "	3 "
21.	Lourenco Marques.	" "	" "	3 "
22.	Umtali.	Southern Rhodesia.	3552.	1 "
23.	Headlands.	" "	5142.	— "
24.	Bulawayo.	" "	4425.	4 "
25.	Victoria Falls } Livingstone }	Northern Rhodesia.	2400.	1 "
26.	Pretoria.	Transval.	6000.	1 "
27.	Johannesburg	Transval.	6000.	6 "

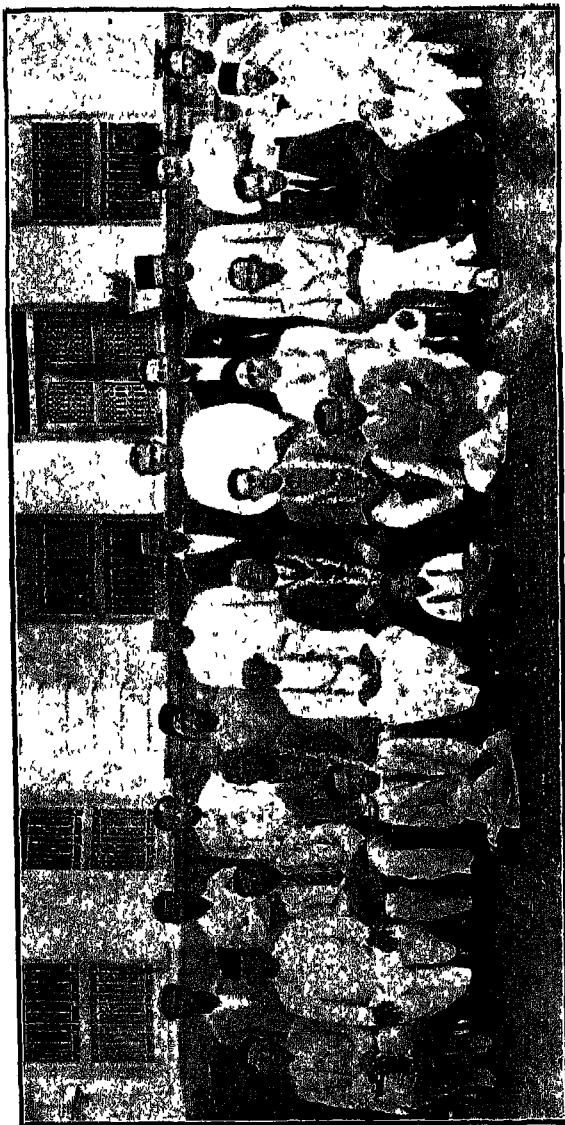


NOTE:— 83 were the days of halt as against 37 days of actual travel, out of the total period of sojourn which was 120 days or 4 months.

### C. DISTANCES TRAVERSED.

PLACES.	MILES.	FORM OF VEHICLE.
Karachi-Bombay.	981.	By Rail.
Bombay-Mombasa.	2721.	By Sea.
(Via Seychelles Islands).		
Island of Mombasa.	20.	By Motor.
Mombasa-Nairobi.	330.	By Air. 2½ (hours).
Fields & Falls.	168.	By Motor.
Nairobi-Nakuru.	108.	By Motor.
Fields & Factories.	34.	By Motor.
Nakuru-Kisumu.	135.	By Rail.
Farms.	20.	By Motor.
Kisumu-Kakamega.	38.	By Motor.
Gold Area.	6.	By Motor.
Kakamega-Eldoret.	70.	By Motor.
Falls & Waterworks.	52.	By Motor.
Eldoret-Kampala.	307.	By Rail.
Kampala-Lugazi & back.	74.	By Motor.
Kampala-Entebbe & back.	50.	By Motor.
Kampala-Port Bell.	6.	By Motor.
Port Bell-Mwanza.	271.	By Lake steamer.
(Lake Victoria).		
Mwanza-Dar-es-Salaam.	840.	By Rail.
D'Salaam-Zanzibar & back.	80.	By Sea.
On Zanzibar Island.	40.	By Motor.
D'Salaam-Beira.	1050.	By Sea.
Beira-Umtali.	204.	By Rail.
*Umtali-Salisbury.	170.	By Rail.
Salisbury-Bulawayo.	299.	By Rail.
Bulawayo-Metaphos & back.	64.	By Motor.
Bulawayo-Victoria Falls.	280.	By Rail.
Victoria Falls-Livingstone & back.	13.	By Motor.
Victoria Falls-Bulawayo.	280.	By Rail.
Bulawayo-Jo'burg.	686.	By Rail.
Jo'burg-Pretoria & back.	90.	By Motor.
Pretoria-Suburbs.	12.	By Motor.
Jo'burg-Lourenco Marques.	397.	By Rail.
L.Marques-Beira.	450.	By Sea.

\* Total mileage travelled on Rhodesian and South African Railways was 1246 and 1083 miles respectively.



Send-off to the Author in July 1936 at Karachi,  
by members of Managing Committee of Hindu Social Service League and others.

Prominent among those present were

1. C. R. Roy Esqr., M.A., B. L., Curator, Victoria Museum, Karachi.
2. Seth Hiralal Ganatra, Deputy Mayor, Karachi Municipal Corporation.
3. & 4. Seth Ratanchand Fatehchand and Mr. Naraindas Jivatram, President and Secretary respectively of Hindu Social Service League.
5. Seth Udhavdass.
6. Prof. C. S. Narwani, M. Sc.,
7. Mr. M. N. Lalla, Hon. Principal, Sind Central Commercial College and others.

## MOMBASA & COAST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW (JULY 1936).

The President of Mombasa and Coast Horticultural Society, after the show in a course of a letter wrote to "Kenya Daily Mail" at Mombasa as under:—

"Let me express my grateful thanks to all those who specially contributed to the success of our second annual show. First I would mention the judges, Lady Rankine, Mr. Khilnany, Mr. R. Turner, Mr. Playfair, Mrs. Montgomery etc.,.....who with their expert knowledge, so kindly came to our assistance.

\* \* \* \*

The "Coast Guardian" European Edited Daily wrote, inter alia, about the expert judging and remarked:— ".....The Judges were also thanked reference being made to one who had come all the way from India".

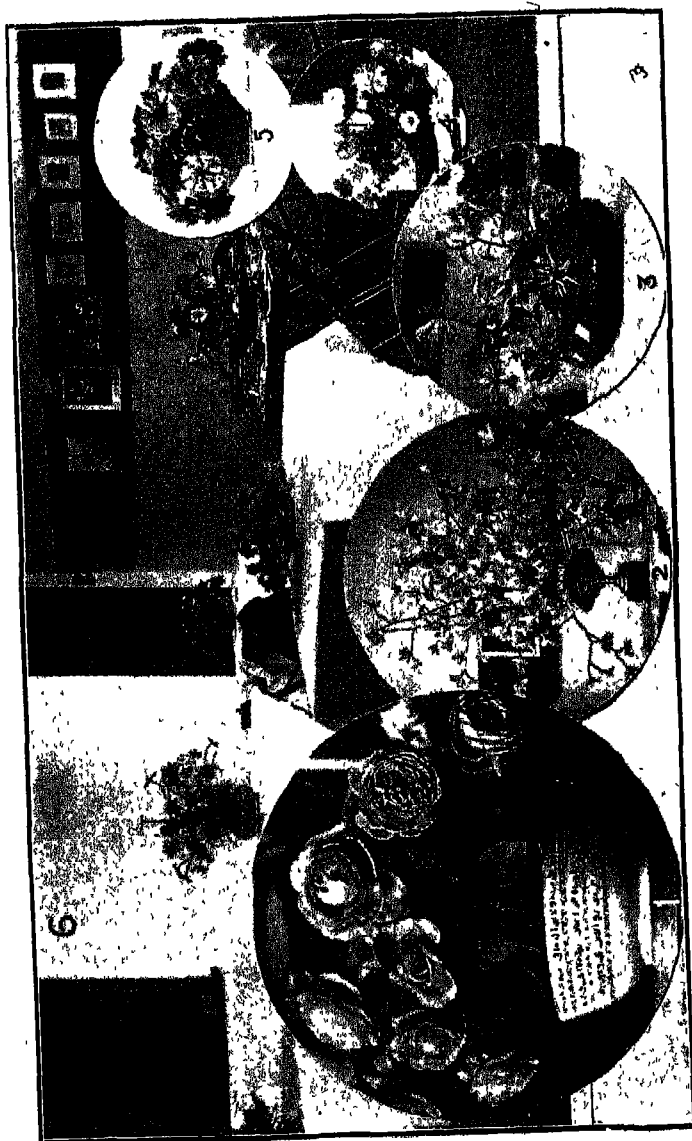
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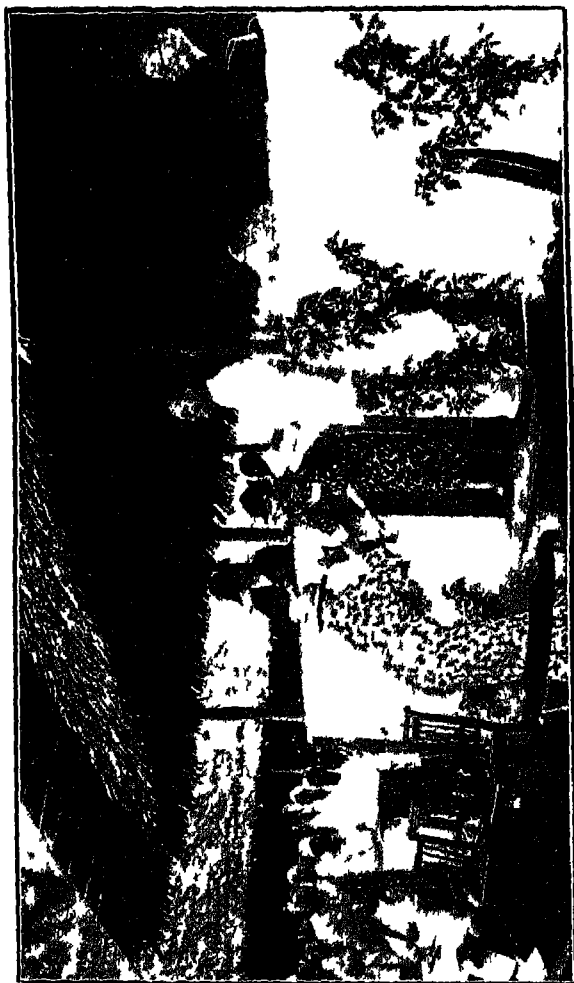
1. Mr. Playfair. 3. The Author.  
The two of the judges for the Horticultural show. (July 1936).  
2. Mrs. Marion Parker, President of Mombasa  
and Coast Horticultural Society.



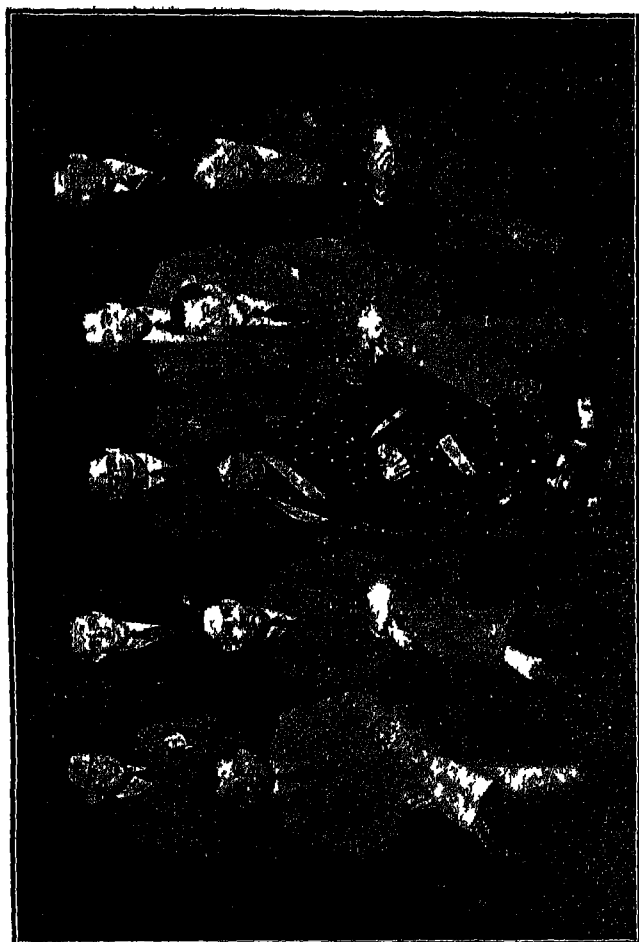
Standing:- 1. The Author. 2. President. 3. Mr. Playfair.  
Sitting from left:- 2 & 4 Mrs. Hira & Mrs. Rana—Indian members  
of the Committee of Mombasa & Coast Horticultural Society.  
P-141-D



Sections of the Flower Show of Mombasa & Coast Horticultural Society (July 1936) wherein the author was invited to participate as a Judge.  
 1. Bowl of Best Roses. 2. 3, 4 and 5. Flowers judged by public vote. 6. General section.



The Horticultural show being over, Lady Byrne wife of Kenya Governor giving away prizes, Sir Joseph Byrne the Governor of Kenya himself standing on the right hand corner.



Send-off to the author at Nairobi (B E Africa) August—1936.  
by a few prominent Indian friends



## SEND OFF TO THE AUTHOR BY NAIROBI INDIANS

(Look up the Photo-illustration over leaf)

Those present were:—

Left to right:—

- SITTING:*—1. Mr. Abdulla Walji Hirji, Banker, Landlord and—Managing Director of European-Edited Daily, "Coast Guardian"
2. The Author
  3. Mrs. Advani.
  4. Assistant Manager, Messrs. Pothumull Brothers, a well-known Sind work merchant firm of Portuguese East Africa.
  5. Mr. Chunilal Kirpalam of the Punjab, Merchant and mill-owner.

- STANDING:*—1. Mr. H. K. Nath. B.Sc., of Eden & Coy, Sialkot.
2. Mr. P. A. Advani, Secretary, New India Assurance Coy, Nairobi
  3. Manager, 'Japan Bazar', Nairobi.
  4. Merchant of Tanga (Tanganyika).
  5. Mr. H. R. Vadia, Overseas organiser, Austin & Coy., Sialkot.

PLACES.	MILES.	FORM OF VEHICLE.
Beira-D'Salaam.	1050.	By Sea.
D'Salaam-Mombasa.	180.	By Sea.
Mombasa-Porbunder.	2342.	By Sea.
P'Bunder-Bombay.	254.	By Sea.
Bombay-Karachi.	551.	By Sea.
<i>Digest.</i>	By Sea:— 8949 Miles.	
	By Air:— 330 Miles.	
	By Land:—5432 Miles.	Total mileage covered <u>14711</u>

Both the Associated Press and United Press of India in their five interviews with me, wrote in this connection as under:—

“In the course of travels which occupied him 4 months, Mr. . . . . covered 14711 miles during 37 days of actual travel, making lightning dashes from one place to another, and visiting 9 territories and 27 towns in them. . . . .”

## APPENDIX

### II. Zanzibar Personalities.

(a) *LADY RANKINE*—Lady Rankine, wife of His Excellency Sir Richard Rankine, the British Resident, *ipso facto*, the Governor of Zanzibar, flew to Mombasa to assist in the horticultural show, in July 1936 and acted as a Co-Judge along with the author, who later visited her by invitation, at the British Residency of Zanzibar. She is a lady of amiable disposition and knows a good deal of floriculture.

(b) *MR. A. J. BHALLOO*—Mr. Bhalloo who was very kind and helpful to the author during his short stay at Zanzibar, is a refined, cultured and respected member of Ismaili Khoja community. Educated in England for 4 years in commerce, he is a young man of progressive views. He takes a very keen interest in education, economics, politics and social uplift work. He is a member of both the Indian National Association and the Zanzibar Chamber of Commerce. He runs his own business representing various firms and is a distributor of Austin motor cars for Zanzibar and Pemba.

His Highness the Aga Khan, on his recent visit to East Africa during his golden jubilee celebrations was pleased to confer the title of "Huzur Mukhi" on him. He is the youngest member of his community to have been thus decorated.

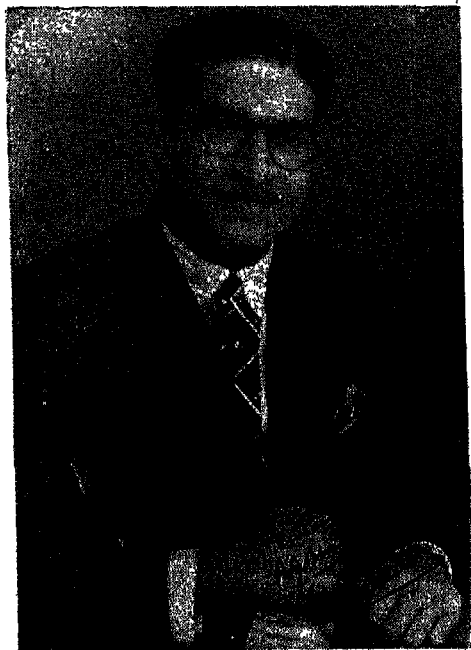
Mr. Bhalloo, on that occasion, donated a sum to found a maternity home to serve the women folk of Ismaili Khojas.

(c) *LATE ALIJAH JESSA BHALLOO*—Mr. A. J. Bhalloo's late lamented father, Alijah Jessa Bhalloo, was a much respected Indian citizen, merchant and landlord of Zanzibar.

(d) *ALIJAH SALEH GANGJI*, proprietor, merchant-Bank of Zanzibar, is a well known person, being



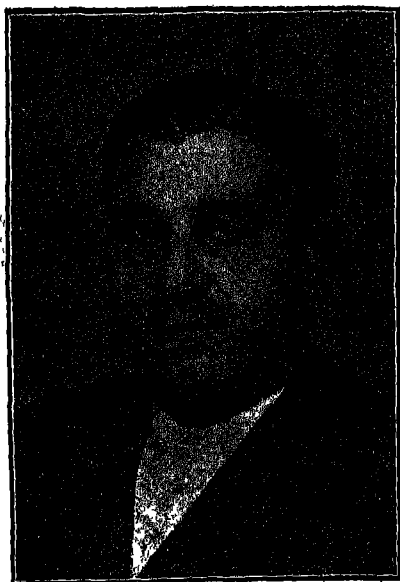
Lady Rankine.  
Wife of His Excellency Sir Richard Rankine,  
The British Resident at Zanzibar (1936)



Huzur Mukhi A. J. Bhalloo, F. C. I. (London).  
A respected member of Ismaili Khoja community of Zanzibar



Late Alijah Jessa Bhalloo.  
A much respected Indian Citizen, Merchant & Landlord  
of Zanzibar.



Alijah Saleh Gangji.  
A famous Khoja Banker.



Mr. M. D. Kermalli.



Honourable Mr. Tyaballi H. A. Karimjee addressing a recent protest meeting in Zanzibar.

an enthusiastic member of the local Indian National Association and Chamber of Commerce.

The author was introduced to him during his stay at Zanzibar, and through his kind offices, he was driven in his car to see about three-fourths of the Island, as also round several clove plantations. He related to the author the story of his earlier days when he had started life as early as 1893 with an outlay of Rs. 33/- only as a petty "Pan Walla" (seller of betel leaves) and how later, from a retailer in food provisions, he rose to be what he is, a big merchant and a banker, a living example of an out and out self-made man.

He is at the moment, running his own bank on most modern banking lines, having organised a number of bank agencies in Aden, Bombay, Karachi, Calcutta, Nairobi Mombasa, Dar-es-Salam having direct dealings with Barclay's and Lloyd's Banks even in London.

(e) *MR. M. D. KARAMALLI*—He is a prominent Khoja Merchant of Itnashuri Section, owning plantations of fruit and cloves. He was Honorary Secretary of Indian National Association of Zanzibar, for several years.

(f) *HONOURABLE MR. TAYABALLI H. A. KARIMJI*—Being a Borah, he comes from the famous Karimji Jiwanjee family and is the unofficial Indian Member of Zanzibar Legislative Council, where, when on 19th July 1937, the notorious Clove Bill as affecting the interests of Indian Clove Traders, was being passed, he staged a walk-out. Soon after, he presided over a largely crowded mass meeting of Zanzibar Indians.

(g) *MR. GULAMALLY KADERBHOY, B.A., LL.B.*, Advocate, originally of Dhar State (Central India) now living in Zanzibar, is the acting president of the Indian National Association there.

(h) *MR. VAGHJI BHAI. S. PATEL* is the present, energetic, Honorary Secretary of the Indian National Association of Zanzibar.



### III. Steamer Services.

(A) *BRITISH INDIAN*—One thing would strike any Indian nationalist in regard to British Indian Steam Navigation Service. Prior to the last world-war, Dutch, German and French steam navigation companies also served the India-Africa route, when travel, due to competition was cheap and more comfortable but after the said war, the B. I. S. N. Coy, has gained the monopoly of that line, running T & K type of boats between Bombay and Africa.

"Kenya" and "Karanja" of this company are two big decent boats of 10,000 tonnage each, capable of boarding 2,150 passengers inclusive of crew. "Karanja" in native African language means a boy. Verily the "K" type of boats of this company are still in boyish state.

While going to and returning from Africa, I travelled both by "Karanja" and "Takliwa" boats of B. I. S. N. Coy, the latter in particular, was lacking in point of discipline and service. And I believed and many agreed with me that German and French services were far superior in regard to comfort and economy.

\* \* \*

I boarded S. S. Karanja on outward voyage, and S. S. Takliwa on return voyage. Part 3 of the picture shows a few distinguished friends on the boat Takliwa, from Mombasa to Bombay while No. 4 is the German Boat "Adolph Woermann" by which I returned from South Africa to East. Part 5 of the picture shows a small boat S. S. "Usoga" of 600 tons only, by which I had an occasion to do nearly 300 miles on the world-famed lake Victoria Nyanza.

\* \* \*

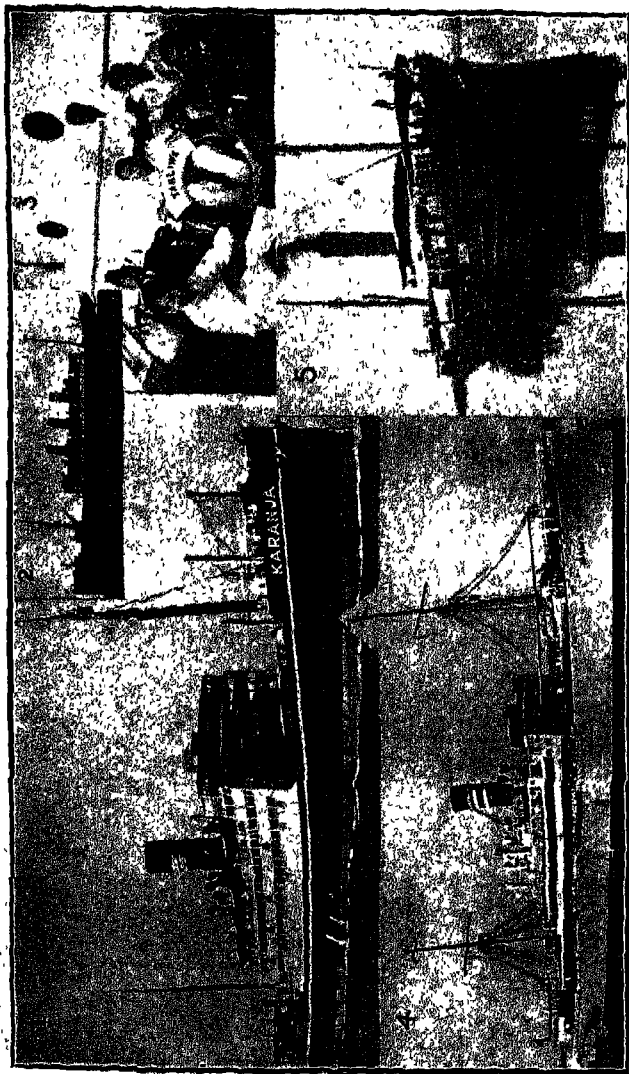
During my extensive travelling of the past so many years, by exchange of views as also by first hand knowledge of men and things, I, like so many others, have come to the conclusion that the only stiff, formal "Talk terse and laugh less" sort of race is the English, whose icy



Mr. Gulamally Kaderbhoy M.A., LL.B.  
Acting President, Indian National Association, Zanzibar.



Mr. V. S. Patel.  
Hon. Secretary, Indian National Association, Zanzibar.



B. I. & German Boats by which the Author travelled to East and South Africa, and back.

conventionalism, taking a comparative view, is well-known throughout the world.

I found, foreigners of almost all nationalities particularly the Americans and Continentalists like the Swiss, Norwegians, Germans and Austrians, showing greatest and sincerest sympathy not only for the political aspirations of Indian people, but for Indian culture as a whole. Some one might sound a note of scepticism and say that their sympathy is empty as they cannot help us materially. But, what else can they do? Nothing but self-help does stand in one's stead; may be, they are over-awed by British Imperialism. Each one of them is besides, confronted by own home problems, troubles and trials. Even moral sympathy that rings sincere and true does go a great way to help a particular nation, for, every nation is jealous of her international reputation. Creation of world opinion and the enlistment of this kind of sympathy therefore are half the battle won for any nation, at any time.

Likewise, propaganda about different cultures, in the midst of the present strife and mis-understanding would assuredly promote good will and better understanding among different clashing races, particularly when Internationalism, is steadily being pushed to the forefront and day in and day out, we are being interconnected and inseparably associated, with others around us, internationally.

On my way to Africa, I had a talk in this regard, with Dr. Hassults a Norweign gentleman, a dentist, from Seychelles Islands, bound for Mombasa. He was a true Christian — — a Protestant and a spiritualist to boot. He entertained a very high regard for Mahatma Gandhi and his great work.

(B) GERMAN—While going to and from South Africa, I deliberately chose German-African steamer service, just to see how exactly Indians were treated by Germans. One thing was obvious. No color prejudice was exhibited in any way. To placate South African whites whom they could not disregard, on their own waters,

mostly for economic reasons, they would segregate Indians a bit and not put them in cabins in between, but no difference whatsoever in service and general treatment could Germans ever be accused of. The entire staff, stewards and all were very polite. Germans as compared to the British, were using in their daily food, more of vegetables in spite of the fact they ate too much of beef. The build of their ships even of small tonnage, is entirely different from most of the British boats of the same size and tonnage. A German boat of 8 to 10,000 tons for instance, would be equipped with a decent hospital on modern lines, a library, a book shop, a big barber's shop and above all a photographic studio besides a printing press. Music was being played twice a day regularly both in first and tourist class lounges. Hitler's portrait was every where to be seen on the German ships. A good deal of solicitude of children's welfare was also in evidence. Even on these, comparatively smaller boats, big recreation grounds were provided. A sweet bugle call every morning, would arouse children from sleep and bring them to their separate dining room where they would be served with breakfast earlier than grown-ups.

\* \* \*

Through interested propaganda, this stalwart and sturdy race of Germans is very much maligned but, by travelling by their lines and by living in their midst, things turn out to the contrary. One high class, widely travelled Englishman from the South who had travelled by "Union Castle" and other English lines, pointedly said to me "On British India Line, you are treated as an Indian, but on German and French lines, you are treated as a human being and more than that, a perfect gentleman." And this, I am afraid, was very true.

\* \* \*

I was the only Indian passenger on board a German ship, en-route to South Africa. Leaving Dar-es-Salaam, I had to send a marconigram to Beira, a Portuguese port; the officer in charge of the wireless, was very polite.

While I was worrying about the quick transmission of the message I asked him if the same would be despatched immediately, which however, I realised was an unnecessary question, but to that even, a sweet and cordial answer in assuring tones, was made "Sure, if it is not done, you can claim your money back".

Formerly Germans in travel services, knew little or no English and a good deal of inconvenience was experienced by non-Germans but now the state insists on their learning English in order to serve foreigners.

\* \* \*

A German girl who knew English was on the German boat coming from home via South Africa. Her one interest in life was writing. She happened to discuss German politics and the talk turned on Hitler's unjust policy of expelling jews. I denounced it strongly. She was sharing my views and related an incident, how her father, a medical man had once treated a Jew patient and how on that account, he had come into trouble in Germany. Everyone, on that boat gave her to understand that I was a publicist and connected with Press and growing a bit nervous, she came up, the following day, requesting me not to give out anywhere all that she had expressed in regard to the Jew expulsion policy of Hitler.

She was particularly interested in the question of untouchability in India. She wanted to be explained how and on what basis, untouchability came to be established in earlier stages of Hindu social structure. She asked me whether or not, it was unjust for a *shudra* who rose on merit, to be as intellectual and as righteous as a horn Brahmin, and still shunned by the Society as a contemptuous being. The discussion proved to be very useful to her.

It was really very educative and enlightening to contact German men and women and I had many a cultural discussion with them. One thing was clear, that they had great regard for Aryan Culture. They admired the secret which distinguished Indians as a race—the secret of

bearing the ups and downs of life with stoic calmness. Similar was the opinion, as we learnt through the press recently, of that German lady Nora Morrell who recently visited India to study first-hand, the Indian Culture and its great living exponents Gandhi and Tagore.

\* \* \*

On my return voyage from South Africa I met an elderly German lady one Miss Else Steup—a writer—a novelist. She said, she had written 2 or 3 books, one of which was in blank verse. She had come out from Berlin, on one year's tour. She first went to German South-West Africa and stayed there for 6 months, where she collected a lot of material for writing a book in the form of a novel, on the subject of "German women in colonies". In Berlin itself, she helped the cause of colonial women's education. She had read a book on "Plant-Sensibility" by Sir J. C. Bose. She was all admiration for Indian culture, and India, she assured me, was in her dreams

(C) *FRENCH*—No nation is perhaps so considerate in the matter of comfort of third class passengers particularly on the sea, as the French who evidently realise that one does not cease to be a human being if one travels by third class. French boats provide all the reasonable conveniences for third class passengers. They do not let deck passengers to rot in sun and rain. A man needs sleep and so they provide a fine berth for him in a cabin fitted with electric lights and fans. Bed sheets are altered every few days and towels changed daily. Daily meals for them consist of morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner, while every meal has 3 courses besides fruits and coffee. They provide hot and cold baths and they issue a daily bulletin of wireless news of the world, which is posted on 3rd class notice boards and there is radio too. These boats belong to Messageries Maritimes and charge £24 from Colombo to Marseilles. A Dutch learned man who had personal experience of the said ocean service spoke very highly of it.

#### IV. A few Impressions in General.

The impressions gathered by me during my travel abroad, are, that large number of people outside, value cultural things unlike most people in our own country who having mercenary mentality invariably view things from the point of view of monetary gain.

By forming contacts and having frequent exchange of views, one does not undoubtedly acquire a broad and cosmopolitan outlook on life.

Every patriotic Indian after returning from abroad and realising, how hopelessly his country men are behind the times and low in the scale of material civilisation and industrial progress, naturally, gets to be dis-spirited, dis-contented, dis-satisfied and disgusted with conditions of life in India, atleast for some time.

\* \* \*

It was freely stated in Portuguese territory that the Portuguese (fond of wine and women), the least patriotic people in Europe, are now nationally fairly wide awake. Thanks to Mahatma Gandhi's movement of 1921 and after, they have since imbibed, a deep and enduring affection for their country and insist on buying articles of their own country's manufacture failing which they buy products of Japan, Germany, England or whichever is cheaper.

\* \* \*

I met Indians who have lived for over two decades in East Africa, as very successful businessmen, but have never cared to visit South Africa. In this connection, I asked Honourable J. B. Pandya, the unofficial Member of Kenya Legislature, Dr. Hasan Nathu and some other highly educated and well-posted people and they all said in one voice, "No self-respecting Indian need go there, in that atmosphere surcharged with race hatred and color prejudice". I however differed from that view.

\* \* \*

I have often read in Press, in the past, complaints against Sind Work Merchants, about bad treatment



meted out to their assistants and servants. I must say, things have improved all over, except perhaps in Java, Penang and Singapore side. In Africa at least, wherever I went, I found the treatment accorded to subordinates by these merchants or their managers, was very satisfactory unlike as in former days. The present generation of these merchants, being educated and cultured, having modernised outlook, are seen moving with the times. The managers of their firms are generally very smart and refined persons and besides being considerate towards their subordinates, some of them are honoured members of clubs and have distinguished themselves as tennis champions.

## V. HELPFUL TIPS TO INDIA

(a) To advance the cause of the material progress of the country, the government of Kenya Colony appeals to outside world by getting their postal department to mark every outgoing letter with the postal date stamp bearing the words "Make your home in Kenya". On the streets and in big shops and stores, in Nairobi one finds "Please help Kenya", and "Support Kenya Industries". Country products like ales, wines, coffee are advertised on big boards in post offices and even on mileage boards along roadsides. Could not the same things be done with advantage in India?

(b) An instance of how patriotic instincts are nurtured among the rising generation, may be cited here. The Mayor of Nairobi sets essay competitions every year, open to boys and girls of all municipal and Government schools on topics like "How do you like Nairobi, your own town and what suggestions would you make to render it more attractive, healthier and happier?"

Could not mayors and presidents of municipal corporations in India do likewise, just to promote patriotism among younger folk?

(c) As in western countries, so all over South Africa in Banks, Post Offices and at Railway stations, people are queued up in front of counters and windows and are served one by one. Could not this orderly service be strictly enforced in India to avoid "rush and crush" of crowds at such public places?

(d) In Portuguese East Africa, the municipal law compels the house owners to have paint of the exterior of their houses to be renewed every year on hygienic grounds. To promote public hygiene, could not similar measures be adopted in India, wherever possible?

(e) In Southern Rhodesia, I had some trouble with the Immigration Officer whose curt and discourteous behaviour I complained of, in my interview with "Bulawayo Chronicle." Shortly after my interview was

published in papers, one Dr. Septigall, who was called "*Rhodesian Pioneer*" called at my host's place and was anxious to see the visitor from India. His one anxiety was to correct my impressions about Rhodesia and to disabuse me of my prejudice if I had developed any, for he was there jealously guarding the fair name and reputation of Rhodesia. What a beautiful idea this! Can't we have retired persons of some status in Indian towns and cities to do the same as did this Rhodesian pioneer?

(f) In South Africa, no receipts are ordinarily passed for telegrams handed in at the telegraph office counters for despatch. Additional two pence are charged if one is needed.

(g) Everywhere in African museums, one finds only local or territorial products displayed. In Rhodesia the whole story of the conquest of that country is fully displayed. Even the hair of Cecil Rhodes, the explorer and pioneer, are seen in Bulawayo museum. National historical collection adorns almost every museum there.

Could not Indian provincial museums be equipped and arranged on similar lines so as to be real educative forces?

(h) All the material, together with such requisites as service uniforms, bed sheets and blankets, towels and soaps used on South African railways, must needs be of South African manufacture.

What a lesson for Indian State Railways!

(i) For every long journey on South African Railways at the time of booking oneself, one has the option of insuring life against accidents or death, on an extra payment of four to five shillings per head.

Why can't Indian Railways adopt similar practice?

(j) In South Africa, I found on motor car back plates, painted, not only the number of the car, along with the abbreviated name of the town to which a particular car belongs, but side by side, the initial letter also of the province in which the town is situated. For instance, Johannesburg is in Transval. All the cars of that city will have plates marked with letters T. J. (or Transval-





Johannesburg) along with their numbers. Likewise N.D. would denote Natal-Durban.

In India we could similarly have B.C. for Bengal-Calcutta, S.K. for Sind-Karachi, P.L. for Punjab-Lahore, C.P.N. for Central Provinces-Nagpur and so on.

(k) After my lecture in a government colored school at Jo'burg, while I was about to leave the school premises, a boy evidently a prefect, came running after me, with a small school autograph book saying "Please Sir! Sign this, giving us a message—will you?"

I said, did not my address on "Health and Service" just given to you, in the school hall, contain the message for you? All the same, I put down "Keep fit" and signed my name.

(l) That the physical side of education, was not neglected in South African Universities, was clear from the fact that students of colleges of the Premier University of Witwatersrand (Jo'burg) received instruction, both individually and collectively, in physical culture under the direction of special University instructors.

Could not Indian Universities appoint their own special instructors, to go round to supervise physical instruction in different colleges under their jurisdiction?

(m) In schools, libraries and other public places as also on exhibition grounds I saw in South Africa, big placards in bold print bearing such inscriptions as,

"South Africa once seen, never forgotten".

What an idea to promote patriotism!

(n) In the city of Johannesburg as also on the Empire Exhibition grounds, in nooks and corners, by tree sides, over iron gauze baskets, were seen the words, boldly painted, "Please help to keep your city clean". The same words I found on the outside of closed horse or motor carriages meant to remove refuse of the town—a sort of moving advertisement.

(o) The Empire Exhibition that I witnessed had many a lesson for us here in India such as about

1. Great Organisation,

2. Wonderful advertising and boosting,
3. Marvellous art of display featuring modern lighting effects.

For mere attendance at the Exhibition, beautiful certificates were issued on payment of two shillings to those who on invitation, signed the golden register at specially erected stalls on Exhibition grounds.

These certificates worth preserving are illustrative of the kind and extent of publicity organised for the Exhibition. By carrying these certificates to different countries by their holders during the period that exhibition lasted, knowledge of all about that great exposition, was necessarily disseminated. The idea of issuing certificates to thousands, for mere attendance, would be dismissed as ridiculous or absurd in India.

In point of publicity, Canada Publicity Bureau as a Government department, had issued three million copies of finely got-up books with tri-colored plates, priced at 12 cents each, giving all the information available about trade, agriculture, industries, manufactured products, mineral resources, railways, important places of visit in towns, educational institutions and all that one need know about that country.

We in India have yet to realize what grand scale publicity could achieve in every department of life.

THE END

## A FEW PRESS AND PUBLIC OPINIONS

1. "The observations and impressions recorded in this book, far from being academic, are entirely practical, and are bound to be of inestimable value to students both of Indian Agriculture and Social Sciences.

I have had the opportunity of glancing through the Author's new work "A Tale of Travel in the land of the Beauteous Black" and I must say, it left a deep impression on my mind, thanks to the manner of exposition and the wealth of detail and pictorial illustration, the author has managed to compress into this small work. Besides giving a pen-picture of the conditions prevailing in the land known to most of us literally as the "Dark Continent", the work is bound to render the greatest service to Indians living abroad, by turning the search-light of publicity and healthy public criticism on the conditions in which our nationals live and labour in that vast Continent. ... .. T. S. T. CHARI.

*Editor-in-Chief.  
Reuters & Associated Press  
of India, Karachi.*

2. "... .. Geographical information, picturesque scenes and sights, flow of stories and anecdotes, broad facts and figures which vividly describe dark, but romantic land, permeate the entire book holding a reader spell-bound till he has finished it.

The chapters dealing with Indian settlers in African Colonies are calculated to give insight to their brethren in India and evoke their unbounded sympathy for them. ... .. The author known to be not an idle traveller or mere sight-seer, has rendered a great service to his countrymen by writing a book of this type. ... .. "

EDITOR: "United Press of India"  
*Karachi.*

3. "... .. Few Indians have travelled so well in East and South Africa and have given such a good account of what they saw and heard there as Mr. M. Dass Khilnany. *The book is bound to create a bond of friendship between the two countries.* It is copiously illustrated and so very well-classified that the tourists may choose what they like or want and students,



may profit by its illuminating pages. *The personal touch is the merit of this book ... ..*"

Prof. MANECK. B. PITHAWALLA,  
B. A., B. Sc., L. C. P., (London),  
*Research Certificate (Univ. of London)*

4. " ... .. It will make a very interesting book about a land of which we know so little. The author seems to have made a special study of the position of Indians in Africa and his views will be found enlightening.

SORAB KATRAK—*Leading business magnate of Karachi and world-travelled person.*

5. The book with a wealth of illustrations adorning it, is very useful and is bound to entertain readers both in India and Africa".

N. M. Billimoria, Hon. Secretary Sind  
*Historical and Sind Natural History Societies.*

6. " ... .. More remarkable than the profusely illustrated contents of the books, is the masterly way in which it is presented to awaken in Indians a lively interest in the work and achievement of their fellow countrymen in Africa, ... .."

Mrs. E. Newman, Journalist and Traveller:

7. " ... .. The book is both interesting and informative and I have no doubt that it would be very well-received by public ... .. "

Rao Bahadur HOTECHAND CHANDUMAL, B. A.  
*Retired Collector, Thar and Parker District (Sind)*

8. " ... .. I congratulate the author on producing a record of travel which is bound to provide instruction and entertainment for the general reader. The large number of illustrations, lend the book an additional charm and enhance its value as "a Document of Human Interest" ... ..

Dr. H. M. GURBAXANI, M. A., Ph. D.,  
(London) Vice-Principal D. J. Sind College, Karachi.

9. "... .. The Learned author's lucid description of life in Africa, her folk etc. do make an interesting reading ... .. "

Dr. Harish Chandra M. A., Ph. D. (Berlin)  
*Director of Equitable Literature Home, Dehradun.*

10. " ... .. Fascinating to a degree, the book in my opinion is essentially a "*Human Document*" wherein the author has made an honest attempt to set the character and achievements of his countrymen residing in Africa, in a truer light. Being inspired by a spirit of justice that a righteous patriotism and well-founded enthusiasm are powerful factors in a nation's life, the author presents this book which may help all concerned to see the truth of great and critical matters that concern neither any one party nor a single nation, but all humanity ... "

Khan Bahadur S. D. CONTRACTOR, B. A., B. E. S.  
(Class I)  
*Retired Educational Inspector in Sind.*

11. "... .. The book contains so many phases and sides of life in Africa that any one could take up anything that interests oneself for further study of investigation. *The author has rendered a true service to his own country and the country he has visited "*

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14. "... .. It is most important for the people of India, to know, how their countrymen live and labour in distant parts of

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